

**ALBIN'S
COMPANION
TO THE
ISLE OF WIGHT.**

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THE TOWN HALL NEWPORT ISLE OF WIGHT.

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A
Companion
TO THE
ISLE OF WIGHT;
COMPRISING THE
History of the Island,
AND THE
DESCRIPTION OF ITS LOCAL SCENERY,
AS WELL AS ALL
OBJECTS OF CURIOSITY.

==
BY JOHN ALBIN.

Ninth Edition, with considerable Additions.

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TO THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE
THE EARL OF MALMSBURY,
Governor of the Isle of Wight,

&c. &c. &c.

THE distinguished situation which your Lordship holds, naturally induces those who have to offer any thing of interest relating to this beautiful Island, to solicit your Lordship's patronage and sanction.

The condescension manifested in permitting this little work to be inscribed with a name so honourable, is a proof that your Lordship is not less disposed to encourage whatever may be deemed useful, and is intended to celebrate the charming and interesting spot over which your Lordship presides.

That your Lordship may very long enjoy the satisfaction of exercising similar acts of beneficence and patronage, and secure the affections and gratitude, both of the inhabitants and visitors of the Isle of Wight, is the general hope, as it is the sincere wish, of

Your Lordship's

Much obliged, and most

Devoted humble Servant,

JOHN ALBIN.

JULY, 1823.

PREFACE.

AS this little work has been drawn up professedly as a guide to assist the tourist in his various excursions through the Isle of Wight, and as the mode of its arrangement and information under the different heads are readily discoverable in the book itself, few prefatory remarks appear to be necessary.

It may not however be superfluous to observe, that its usefulness has been sufficiently evinced, by the rapid sale of the several editions through which it has passed.

The Editor's wish and endeavours have ever been to improve and adapt the whole work as a Companion to the tourist throughout every part of the Island, by pointing out with accuracy and fidelity, every beautiful object and picturesque scene, worthy the notice of the inquisitive stranger, which a residence of nearly forty years has enabled him to do.

The new map of the Island has received very particular attention, and has undergone every possible correction and improvement.

A botanical arrangement of the more rare and interesting plants found in the Island, has also been

compiled, specifying their general habitats or places of growth, together with several notes and observations; which arrangement may be had attached to this edition, at the additional charge of one shilling, and may also be had separately, neatly sewed.

The Editor concludes with the hope, that this ninth edition, having undergone a complete revisal with numerous additions, will be found deserving of the same favourable sentiments, as were extended to the former impressions.

July, 1823.

A Companion

TO THE

ISLE OF WIGHT.

Before we enter upon a general description of the Island, perhaps the most necessary information that can be given to strangers about to make a tour through it, is a list of the principal Inns in the different Towns.

The Chief Inns in

NEWPORT——Are the Bugle, the Green Dragon, and the Wheat-Sheaf.

COWES——The Fountain, the Vine, and the Marine Hotel.

RYDE——The Hotel, the Bugle, and the Star.

YARMOUTH——The George.

CHAPTER I.

General view of the Island—situation—extent—population—soil—produce, &c.

THE Isle of Wight lies on the coast of Hampshire, of which county it forms a part. The strait that separates it from the main land, and which is called the solent sea, probably from the latin *Solvo* or *Solvendo*, to loosen or set free, is of unequal breadth, being about one mile across towards the western extremity, opposite Hurst Castle, and about seven at the eastern extremity, opposite Portsmouth.

It is encompassed with rocks, especially towards France, of which the most noted are, the Shingles and the Needles, in the western point; in other

parts, it is protected by cliffs of chalk and free stone. These render it, in most places inaccessible; and where the shore is almost level and lies exposed, as it does towards the south-east, it is fortified by castles, forts, and blockhouses.

The form of this island has been compared to that of a lozenge, or of a bird with expanded wings. Its greatest length is from east to west about twenty-four miles, and its breadth from north to south, fourteen. Its superficial contents are reckoned to be from one hundred to one hundred and twenty thousand acres, or about two hundred square miles, and its circumference about sixty miles.

Antiquaries have laboured to determine whether the Isle of Wight was anciently an Island, or only a peninsula. To those, however, who visit this spot either for pleasure or business, the controversy is now of little importance, and researches of this kind being seldom supported by well-founded authorities, serve at best to produce but ingenious speculations. It may be sufficient, therefore, for our purpose to mention that its name, with the Romans, was *VECTIS*, or *VECTA*; while some derive *Wight*, from the British word *Guith*, (a breach or division), as expressive of its original separation from the main land. It is, however, as easy to derive it from *Vectis* by one of those changes of spelling and pronunciation common in barbarous times, especially as we find it called *WECT*, *WITH*, or *WICT*, in *Doomesday-book*. Upon the whole, it is not improbable that it was al-

ways pretty nearly disjoined from the main land, as we now find it; or, if ever it was a peninsula with an isthmus, it must have been at a period so remote, as to afford no record or authority for the fact. Those who wish to make themselves acquainted with all that has been written on this subject, may consult with advantage some late histories of great extent.*

The island is divided into two hundreds, called East and West Medine, separated by the course of the river *Mede*, (perhaps from the latin *medium*,) *Medham*, or, as it is now called *Medina*, which, rising near the bottom of St. Catherine's down, runs northward and discharges itself into the channel, between East and West Cowes.

East Medine consists of fourteen parishes, namely,

Brading,	Wootton,
Yaverland,	Whippingham,
Shanklin,	Arreton,
Bonchurch,	Godshill,
St. Helens,	St. Lawrence,
Newchurch,	Whitwell,
Binstead,	Niton,

* See Sir Richard Worsley's History of the Isle of Wight, and the more recent History of the Island, by Mr. Albin, Ch. 2.

West Medine contains sixteen parishes.

Northwood,	Brixton,
Carisbrooke,	Calbourn,
St. Nicholas,	Motteston,
Gatcombe,	Brooke,
Chale,	Shalfleet,
Kingston,	Thorley,
Shorwell,	Yarmouth, and
Newport,	Freshwater,

The population of this island, according to the last census, taken in the year 1821, amounted to 31,611 ; having increased 6273 since the year 1811. The chief towns are NEWPORT, which may be considered as the capital of the island, COWES, RYDE, and YARMOUTH.

The air of this island, particularly in the higher southern parts, is extremely salubrious, Instances of longevity among the inhabitants are frequent ; and the general appearance of health and vigour among the lower ranks, sufficiently marks the importance of the island to valetudinary visitors. Perhaps there is no part of the kingdom more frequently or more successfully resorted to, by those who wish either to retain or recover that inestimable blessing health, without which all other possessions are but splendid mockeries.

The fertilities of the island, which an improved system of agriculture has of late years considerably increased, have long been celebrated amongst the inhabitants, and acknowledged by the ablest writers on the subject; its annual produce has even been estimated at seven times its consumption, but this calculation is certainly exaggerated: the soil, however, is extremely different in different parts of the country, and sometimes remarkable varieties occur in a very small district. In the parish of Brading for example: the south part consists of a free, kind working soil, mixed with a small proportion of sand; the west, of a light loam, mixed with chalk; and the north and east parts of a stiff clay, scarcely yielding to the operation of the husbandman. In many parts of the island, the soil is gravelly, in others flinty; but its general character is a strong and loamy earth, well calculated for agricultural purposes. It abounds with marle, (both shell and stone,) chalk, fuller's and brick earth, tobacco-pipe-clay, stone of different qualities, and various kinds of sands; of the last, a fine white sort is found in the parish of Freshwater, on the manor of Messrs. Rushworth, Hicks, and St. Barbe, which is esteemed far superior to any other in the kingdom, and is used in great quantities for the glass and porcelain manufactories of London, Bristol, and Worcester. There is also a bay, called Alum Bay, to the north of the Needles, from the quantity of Alum found there.

The several species of grain in this island are wheat, barley, oats, beans, and peas. In the eastern part, the medium produce of wheat is about twenty-nine bushels, of oats, twenty-eight, of barley thirty, of peas twenty-eight, and of beans twenty-four bushels per acre. In the southern and western parts it is rather larger—wheat thirty bushels, oats forty, barley thirty, beans thirty-two, and peas twenty-eight bushels per acre. The potato, although not perhaps so much regarded here as so valuable an esculent deserves, yields very satisfactory crops, from sixty to one hundred and ten sacks per acre. There are many parts here admirably adapted for the cultivation of the potato, and the surplusage consumption of the island, might be carried at a trifling expence to Portsmouth, where we presume it would find a ready market.

The farms on the island are of a moderate size, from £100 to £500 per annum, with a few from £500 to £800. The average rent is about 20s. per acre. Estates, when sold, fetch from twenty-eight to thirty years purchase.

The green crops are principally turnips, clover, vetches, rye-grass, and trefoil. The pasture and meadow land is extremely rich, and produces from one to three tons of fine hay per acre.

Of animals, sheep have of late years principally been attended to in the Isle of Wight. The number of sheep annually shorn, is supposed to amount to forty thousand. Five thousand lambs have been

sold, in one year only, to the London butchers, one of whom has been known to buy fifteen hundred at one purchase. The breed in general use, is the Dorsetshire, although lately they have been crossed by the Leicester. The average weight of wool per fleece, is from three to three and a half pounds, which is chiefly exported in the fleece to different trading towns.*

The cows are mostly of the Alderney breed, though mixed with the English sorts. Oxen are rare; on some, but few farms, they are worked as horses.

The horses are in general large, and great pains are taken to improve them for the team, as well as for the saddle.

Mr. Warner in his agricultural survey of the island considers the hogs as of a breed peculiar to the country, being tall and large, marked with black spots, and having very deep sides.

Although the game of the island has suffered considerably by the multitude of sportsmen and military yet there is every where plenty of hares and rabbits, partridges, pheasants, lapwings, woodcocks, and variety of wild fowl; and one park, Appuldurcombe, stocked with deer.

* The island is much indebted to the late Mr. Keach, of Ningwood Farm, and the late Mr. G. Noyes, of Pan Farm, who have introduced a remarkably fine breed of Leicester rams, some of whose fleeces have weighed from nine to fourteen pounds each,

The various species of fish usually found on the English coast are caught here; and the quantities of shell-fish taken on the southern side of the island, have given to a village there the name of Crab-Niton, from the great quantity of crabs that are caught near it.

Timber was formerly plentiful in the island, but the demands of the dock-yards have of late years thinned the woods: the oak and the elm are the most flourishing of what remains. The more profitable and quick return made by land kept in tillage, also operates against the rearing of timber here, as well as in most other parts of Great Britain.

Plantations of considerable extent however, have lately been made by Sir Leonard Holmes, on some of the most steril parts of the downs in the western districts of the island, where timber least abounds, which are now in thriving condition, and promise in future years amply to reward him for the expense and spirit of the undertaking.

Of waste land, from what has been already said, it may be supposed there is but little. Parkhurst, or Carisbrook Forest, which lies north westward from the centre of the island, and was formerly a waste of three thousand acres, affording little advantage either to the crown, or to its neighbours, has since the publication of the last edition of this work, been inclosed, and the greater part of it is now in a state of improving cultivation. The wooded parts of the

forest used to abound with deer, but this portion of it being reserved to the crown, it was found necessary for the preservation of the timber, that these "antlered monarchs of the waste" should be excluded from their sylvan recesses, and the fatal edict which issued for their extermination was executed with unrelenting fidelity.

In the eastern part of the island are some tracts of marshy ground, covered at high tides, by the sea, but left bare on its reflux; the largest of these is Brading-haven, containing about nine hundred acres. In the reign of Edward I. an idea was entertained, that there was a possibility of recovering this usurpation from the sea, and attempts for that purpose were then made, and have since been renewed, though with little success.*

CHAPTER. II.

Military, Civil, and Ecclesiastical History.

THAT the Romans invaded this island in common with the rest of the kingdom, upon this and the adjoining coast, is highly probable, even if we had it not upon the authority of some of their historians, but it does not appear to have been considered as a place of great importance. There are none of those Roman encampments which are to be discovered in

*ALBIN'S History of the Isle of Wight, p. 473, &c.

almost every other part of the kingdom. It was afterwards plundered by the invaders of England during the heptarchy, but the detail of their military exploits, detached from the general history of the country, would form but a barren narrative. Soon after the conquest of William I. it is mentioned as a place capable of some defence ; and in the 13th. year of Edward III. the inhabitants repulsed a strong party of French invaders. Still, however, their internal security was slight, for Carisbrooke Castle, though built at this time, and a place of great strength, according to the art of war then practised, was, from its situation, calculated only for a retreat to the inhabitants, when the island was in possession of an enemy. Node Hill, now one of the avenues to Newport, was anciently called Noddies' Hill, from a successful ambuscade placed there in the time of Richard II. to intercept the French, who were besieging Carisbrooke castle, and by means of which they were cut off. Their bodies were buried under this hill, to which the triumphant inhabitants sarcastically gave the name of Noddies' or Noddles' Hill. Other attempts were afterwards made against the peace and property of the island by the French, but with little success and during the civil wars between the houses of York and Lancaster it enjoyed profound tranquility, their foreign enemies, the French, having likewise at that period full employment at home.

- In the 36th year of Henry VIII the French, who had prepared a great fleet for the invasion of the

kingdom, (upon which, however, they were unable to land, owing to the dangers of the coast,) sent two thousand men to this island, which they were ravaging with the true spirit of depredation, when the intrepid governor, Richard Worsley, collecting a sufficient force, drove them back with loss and confusion to their ships.

From this time more regular means of defence began to be adopted, and forts were built in different parts of the island to oppose the landing of an enemy. One of the principal of these standing on Norton common, on the coast immediately opposite to Hurst Castle, was called Worsley's Tower, in honour of the brave commander just mentioned. The other fortresses were Carisbrooke Castle, Yarmouth, Freshwater, Sharpnore or Carey's Sconce, Sandown or Sandham Fort, and Cowes Castle. These will be noticed hereafter, when we come to point out the various objects claiming the traveller's attention. The military history of the island, after the time of Henry VIII, becomes too closely united with the general history of the kingdom to be detached from it, so as to afford subject for a separate narrative.

Of its civil history we have but very slender and transient accounts in the early historians. During the Saxon heptarchy, however, it appears to have frequently changed its masters. CERDIC, the first Saxon monarch of the island, died in the year 534, leaving the possession to his two nephews, Withgar

and Stuffa, whose exterminating swords appear to have nearly annihilated the small remaining race of original inhabitants, who had escaped the massacre of the former despot.

The island, however, remained under the dominion of these tyrants and their descendants, for upwards of five centuries, till it submitted to the arms of the Norman Conqueror. On the conquest, William granted it to a relation, William Fitz-Osborne, who had distinguished himself in the battle of Hastings, and who (as the grant expressed it) was to "hold this island as freely as the Conqueror held the realm of England ;" and in this freedom he even exceeded his master's tyranny, for he ejected all the former possessors of the island, without distinction of party, excepting only the officers and servants of the late King Edward the Confessor. The island then passed successively from one favourite to another, until it fell to the lot of Richard de Rivers, Earl of Devonshire, with whose successors (Earls and Countesses of Devonshire) it remained until the year 1293, when it was purchased by the crown for the trifling sum of six thousand marks, or about four thousand pounds sterling.

It now became the private property of the kings of England, and was bestowed by them occasionally, in grants and leases, to their particular favourites. Edward II gave it to Piers Gaveston, his wife, and the heirs of his body, but resumed the grant in the following year, and conferred it on his eldest son

Edward, then stiled Earl of Chester. Richard II granted the lordship of it to William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, for the term of his natural life; and in this manner it was conveyed from lord to lord, as interest, partiality, or political reasons prompted. One of its lords, the Duke of Warwick, was crowned king of the Isle of Wight, by patent of the 24th year of Henry VI; but Henry VII resumed the jurisdiction of the island, and it has, ever since, been considered as part of the dominions of the crown; inalienable and subject to the crown as the rest of the kingdom is; and from this time we are to date the appointment of captains and governors. During the late reign, the governors have been, Thomas, Lord Holmes; Hans Stanley, Esq.; Harry Duke of Bolton; and Sir Richard Worsley; Lord Malmesbury, at present fills that station.

In former times, the governors, captains, or wardens, as they were called, possessed power not much unlike those at present given to the governors of our settlements in the East and West Indies, tinctured, however, a little more with the arbitrary spirit of the times. There is a curious instance of this, but perhaps it will not excite much indignation, in Sir John Oglander's memoirs:—"I have heard (says the writer), and partly know it to be true, that not only heretofore there was no lawyer or attorney in our island, but in Sir George Carey's time (he was captain of the island temp. Eliz.), an attorney coming in to settle in the island was, by his command,

with a pound of candles hanging at his breech lighted, with bells about his legs, hunted owte of the island ; insomuch as our ancestors lived here so quietly and securely, being neither troubled to London or Winchester, so they seldom or never went out of the Island ; insomuch as when they went to London, thinking it an East India voyage, they always made their wills, supposing no trouble like to travaile."

Fuller certainly records an old proverb, that "the Isle of Wight hath no monks, lawyers, nor foxes," but he adds, "that it hath more of mirth than of truth in it:" and as the late collector of provincial proverbs, Captain Grose, humorously observes, "that there should be a fertile, healthy, and pleasant spot without monks; a rich place without lawyers; and a country abounding with lambs, poultry, and game, without foxes, is evidently an improbability.

Through the middle of the Island, in the longest direction, extend a range of high hills, affording excellent pasturage for sheep and commanding views over every part of the Isle, with the ocean on the south side, and on the north the beautiful coast of Hampshire. The face of the country is very diversified, bold hills of various elevations, intersected by rich and cultivated vales, the swelling promontory, and the lowly glen, appear in quick succession, to animate and give interest to the prospects.

The butter is very good; but the cheese which is made of the skim milk, bears the appropriate name of Isle of Wight Rock.

The climate is extremely salubrious, and highly favorable to vegetation; its genial qualities and near approximation in mildness to more southern regions, may be instanced by the profusion of genial myrtles in a number of the gardens. The central parts of the Isle are subject to frequent rains, the high range of hills proving a constant source of attraction to the vapours, and in the winter months involving all beneath them in gloom and humidity. The general fertility, however, is so little affected, and the vegetation is so abundant, that this Island has been often styled the Garden of England; an appellation perhaps, that is partly suggested to the mind by the innumerable plants and flowers which grow every where in wild luxuriance. All the higher parts of the Isle are composed of an immense mass of calcareous matter, of a chalky nature, incumbent on schistus, which run under the whole Isle, and appears at low water mark, on the coast near Mottiston. This becomes so indurated by exposure to the air, as to make very good whetstones. The lime stone is burnt for manure; and in the pits where it is dug for that purpose, are found numerous echini, shark's teeth, and ammoniæ. These fossils are particularly abundant in the range of cliffs which forms the southern shore; together with bivalve and turbinated shells of various descriptions: the cornua ammonis are of all sizes, from one inch to a foot and a half in diameter. A stratum of coal discovers itself at the foot of Bembridge Cliff, and runs through the northern part of the Isle, ap-

pearing again at Warden Ledge in Freshwater parish. On the north-side of this stratum lies a vein of white sand, and another of fuller's earth: and on the south side is another of red ochre. The coal is reported to be of good quality, the upper part of the stratum is about 3 feet wide; it dips to the northward: a shaft was sunk by the late Sir Robert Worsley, at Bembridge, to ascertain its depth; but the vein was there so thin, that it was judged insufficient to defray the expense; and the undertaking was abandoned. Freestones of several descriptions are found here, but none of superior quality; though that obtained in the quarries near Quarr Abbey, was some ages ago in much request; but the superior nature of the Portland stone has long destroyed its reputation. Red and yellow ochres are particularly observable in Alum Bay, to the north of the Needles, where their mingled strata variagate the cliffs. In this bay native alum is found in large quantities, and in other respects a considerable field is open for the investigation of the mineralogist. Small masses of native sulphur are frequently picked up on different parts of the shore. Argella apyra, or pipe-clay, is very plentiful in different parts of the Isle. Several chalybeate springs have been found in different parts of the Island (besides the one we have taken notice of at Sand-rock.) The springs of clear water are very numerous, and in general extremely pure and transparent, from the natural percolation which they undergo through the lime-stone strata.

The rents of the island, which are now granted by patent to the governors, amount in the whole to 672*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*

• During the civil wars in the seventeenth century, the island was accidentally the scene of an affecting part of the sufferings of Charles I. It was here he took refuge, and expected to find friends; and here he was betrayed into the hands of his enemies*.

We have only to add on the civil history of the island, that it sends six members to parliament; two for the borough of Newport, two for that of Yarmouth, and two for that of Newtown; of these we shall treat more particularly in our next chapter. In civil affairs, the Island is subject to the county of Southampton; and in ecclesiastical matters, to the jurisdiction of the bishop of Winchester.

The ecclesiastical antiquities of the island are at this day but seldom an object of inquiry. To those visitors, however, who may be disposed to investigate the remains of early piety, it may be necessary to point out the following:—

In Carisbrooke, is a church dedicated to St. Mary, which William Fitz-Osborne, above-mentioned, gave, with several other possessions in England, to the abbey of Lyra in Normandy; upon which a prior and some black monks, from the foreign monastery, settled there.

* Particular account of which, see ALBIN'S History of the Isle of Wight.

At Quarr, south-east of Newport, in 1132, Baldwin de Rivers, afterwards Earl of Devonshire, built an abbey of Cistercian monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Its yearly revenues, upon the suppression, were valued at 134*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*

At Marvel, not far from Newport, a college of priests was founded by Henry de Blois, Bishop of Winchester, and augmented by Peter de Roch and Henry Woodlock, two of his successors; and near this place there is a church, in which was a chantry at the dissolution.

At St. Helens, upon the eastern coast, there was an alien priory of Cluniac monks before the year 1155.

At St. Cross, near Newport, before the year 1155, there was a priory, or hospital, dedicated to the Holy Cross, which was a cell to the abbey of Tirone in France.

At Appuldurcombe, seven miles south of Newport, there was a cell of Benedictine monks, subordinate to the abbey of St. Mary de Montisburg, in Normandy. It was founded about the end of the reign of King Henry III by Isabella de Fortibus, and was dissolved, with the rest of the alien priories by King Henry V.

At Barton, near East Cowes, so early as the time of King Edward I, there was a priory of canons, of the order of St. Austin, dedicated to the Holy Trinity. It consisted of several chaplains under the government of an archpresbyter, who, in the nineteenth of Henry VI, gave away the estate of the priory to St. Mary's college at Winchester.

At Godshill, north of Appuldurcombe, there is a church which was early appropriated to the abbey of Lyra, in Normandy, in which are placed some very superb monuments of the Worsley family, well worth the inspection of the curious.

In the register of Winchester church, there is mention of an hermitage at Chale, upon the coast south west of Appuldurcombe, as early as the year 1312.

CHAPTER III.

*Principal Towns or Boroughs:—Newport,
Newtown, Yarmouth.*

NEWPORT.

NEWPORT, the principal town of the Island, was a place of little note before the reign of Henry II, about which time, it is probable, the church was built, and dedicated to St. Thomas a Becket, the popular saint of that time. The first charter of the incorporation was granted to Newport in the first year of the reign of James I, but it sent members to parliament as far back as the 23rd of Edward I. The privilege, however, was discontinued next year, and not re-

stored until the 23rd of Elizabeth. The right of election is in the corporation, which consists of a mayor, recorder, ten aldermen, and twelve burgesses.

The town of Newport stands nearly in the centre of the Island; a situation which, in many respects, gives it a decided superiority. It is happily watered, both on the east and west side by plentiful streams. One of these rises at the farthest foot of the southern hills; and the other commences at a place called Raynor's Grove, about three miles distant from the town. On each of these streams are corn mills: and where they unite below the town, is a quay for the convenience of commerce.

Newport is an extremely neat, handsome, and well built town. It is disposed in five parallel streets in length, and three in breadth, which cross each other at right angles. It was originally intended to have had three large squares at the intersections of the streets, to serve as cattle, corn, and poultry markets. But various encroachments have destroyed the uniformity of the design.

The streets are well paved and lighted with gass; kept remarkably clean and provided with foot ways; and the buildings have a neat, commodious, and pleasing appearance. The principal public building in the town is the new guildhall and market-place, a large and elegant structure of the Ionic order, lately erected at the expense of the corporation, after a design presented to them by Mr. Nash, in which his taste and talents have been eminently dis-

played. The building stands handsomely in the centre of the town. A magnificent colonnade of Ionic pillars, supported by arches of the same order, forms the principal front on the west, whilst an elegant facade of corresponding architecture is extremely ornamental to the High Street, which runs parallel to it on the south. See the elegant engraving facing title.

Though it is difficult, indeed impossible, to give by description any accurate idea of a public edifice, it is still due to the structure before us, to say, that in beauty and chasteness of design, in taste, proportion, and that happy union of utility and ornament, which forms the perfection of public buildings, it deserves all the praise that has been bestowed upon it. The square or area of the base forms a spacious, commodious market-place, excellently arranged in compartments for butchers' shambles, fish and vegetable stalls, and other requisite accommodations, with a large pump on one side. Over the market place is a magnificent town-hall; the partitions, forming the apartments for the juries, solicitors, witnesses, &c. are screwed to the floor, to afford when required a facility of removal. The hall communicates at the upper end with the council chamber, where the grand jury meet, being a room of the same width and elevation, and about 30 feet by 20, separated from the hall by a moveable partition, which being taken away the council chamber is thrown into the hall, which then forms one magnificent room, of 48 feet by 30, and 22 feet high.

At the lower end of the hall hangs a very spirited full length portrait of Sir Leonard Holmes, in his recorder's robe, by *Owen*; this picture was painted at the expense of the inhabitants of the town, and by them presented to the corporation, as a testimony of their esteem for the individual whom it represents, and a suitable acknowledgment of the liberality and public spirit to which the Island was indebted, for the accommodations the building affords. Besides the large hall, there is also a room for the petty jury to retire to, an office for the town clerk, and other useful apartments.

In this hall the sessions of the peace for the borough, which take place twice a year, about Ladyday and Michaelmas, are holden; and here all the meetings of the corporation take place. Here also the magistrates of the county, acting for the division of the Island, by permission of the corporation, hold their weekly meetings on every Saturday throughout the year; and indeed upon most occasions of general assembly, upon public business or festivity, the doors of the hall are readily thrown open by the corporation, to the public service. The present building was erected on the scite of the old market-house, enlarged by that of several houses adjoining, which were purchased by the corporation, and pulled down for the purpose. It cost altogether about £ 10,000 which was raised by the sale of a considerable part of the estates of the corporation in Newport and its neighbourhood. The corner stone was laid on the 20th

day of March, 1814, and it was finished in the month of March, 1816.

Of the courts of the Island the principal is the borough court of Newport, holden once in three weeks, before the mayor, recorder, justices, and jury. The court has cognizance of debts to the amount of £ 10 and upwards; and for trespass, trover, &c. within the borough. For recovery of these debts, process issues, upon which warrants of arrest, under the common seal of the borough and signature of the town clerk, are granted.

The ancient court of *Pie Powder* is also holden once a year within the borough. There is also another court of rather a singular constitution, which may deserve description.

It is called the *Curia Militum*, knight's court, or knighten court, and is held by the steward of the governor of the Island. This court is of very ancient institution, and is supposed to have been erected by William Fitz-Osborne, already mentioned, who received the first grant of the Island from William the Conqueror. It is plain, that it is of feudal origin; for the judges of it were such as held a knight's fee, or part of a knight's, from the lord of the Island: and these judges, according to the feudal system, gave judgment, as in courts of equity, without the intervention of a jury.

The captain's steward, or his deputy, holds this court by virtue of the captain's patent every Monday three weeks, except that day happens to be a holiday.

It has jurisdiction over the whole Island, except the borough of Newport, and holds plea of all actions of debt and trespass under the value of forty shillings; and upon replevins granted by the steward or his deputy.

The proceedings are of the same nature as those in our courts of equity, and are carried on by attorneys admitted by the court. Actions of debt are tried by proof of plaintiff or defendant, or the defendant's wager of law; by two hands, if he prays it; and actions of trespass are determined by proof only.

A representation was made to Lord Conway the governor, in 1626, concerning the nature of this court, and the inconvenience arising from the small number of its judges, who must be freeholders, holding of the castle of Carisbrooke. This was also accompanied with some useful hints for its improvement by the introduction of juries, and the extension of its jurisdiction to causes of higher value; but no alteration was made in its forms or powers.

In the year 1806, an act of parliament, for the recovery of small debts, within the Island, to the amount of five pounds, was obtained by the voluntary subscription of the inhabitants.

The principal classical school in Newport is the free grammar school, for the instruction of a limited number of boys. It was erected by public subscription in 1619, and being properly endowed, and ably conducted, is of great advantage to the Island, as a seminary for such acquirements as may be necessary

in common life, or as preparatory to studies upon a larger scale. It is a plain stone building, containing convenient apartments for the master. The school-room, which is fifty feet long, was the room in which Charles I attempted a treaty with the parliament commissioners in 1648. This was the last effort of that unhappy monarch to save his crown and his life; but the one was then gone, and the other was devoted. The treaty was artfully spun out during two months, and none of his counsel being allowed to be present, he alone had to contend with fifteen men of the greatest capacity in both houses of parliament. "Yet (says Hume) no advantage was ever obtained over him. This was the scene, above all others, in which he was qualified to excel. A quick conception—a cultivated understanding—a chaste education—a dignified manner; by these accomplishments, he triumphed in all discussions of cool and temperate reasoning." When the scite of this memorable treaty is pointed out, the mind is naturally impressed with the tenderness of local emotion, and led to meditate on that most striking example of the instability of human grandeur.

There is another school, supported partly by endowment, and partly by voluntary subscription, for the purpose of clothing and instructing girls in reading, writing, needle-work, and other employments suited to their expected situations in life. There are also Sunday schools, supported by the services and encouragement of the principal inhabitants, and two public schools, one on the plan of Dr. Bell, and the

other on that of J. Lancaster. These schools are well conducted and well attended, upwards of 200 children being daily taught in each of them. On the utility of such institutions, it would be needless to expatiate. If there were no other motives than self-interest, it would be a prevailing one with every person who reflects upon the advantage of having honest servants, honest labourers, and honest tenants; and who considers that the only season of improvement is in early youth, before the mind has become vitiated, and the manners debased. But there is a superior motive; for he who impresses on the youthful mind the principles of religion, confers the highest obligation which human nature is capable of receiving.

There are also other schools in the town, in which youth of both sexes are instructed in every branch of useful and polite literature.

The number of houses in Newport is upwards of eight hundred; and the number of inhabitants, about five thousand. This population however must of course be ever fluctuating. The increase and decrease of the inhabitants of a town like this being circumstances that imperceptibly occur, and but for the intervention of some sudden calamity, which visibly thins, or some extraordinary influx, which as visibly increases the number, are seldom the objects of calculation.

Upon the character of the inhabitants it is unnecessary to enlarge. Claims to superior virtues of any kind have generally in them more of vanity than truth,

and as to local peculiarities, they are every day wearing away with the changing character of the times. An extended communication between the inhabitants of all extremes of the empire, which increasing trade and population naturally produces, has also of late years given an assimilation of habits, manners, and character throughout the kingdom. Whatever pretensions therefore our island ancestors might formerly have had to extraordinary virtue, simplicity, or hospitality, the inhabitants of the present day differ not in character from those of other places. They have neither more virtues to boast, nor more vices to deplore; though it must be confessed that the immense military depots that have for the last thirty years been established, however they may have enriched the trading interests, have not improved the moral virtues of the island.

The fair sex have indeed generally engaged the admiration of visitors. "Here (says a late writer) beauty has its exquisite triumphs, and in witnessing these, the market and gala days of Newport have often detained the stranger's eye with complacency and pleasure*." This compliment it would be difficult to expand without taking from its force.

The markets, whither the visitor has just been so attractively directed, are held twice a week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, the former chiefly for cattle, but the latter is the principal. Two hundred wag-

* Sketches of Description, &c. 1792, p. 55, 56.

gons of grain have formerly been loaded and brought for sale, amounting to fourteen or fifteen hundred quarters, of which a great part was manufactured in the island into flour, malt, and biscuit, for the use of the navy, and the rest purchased by factors and merchants for exportation, but peace has diminished the consumption. Provisions of other kinds are also brought to the market in great abundance, especially poultry and butter. The markets for corn and grain are usually in some degree discontinued during the harvest, which is generally abundant; and a large supply of hands is annually imported from Cornwall, Somersetshire, and Devonshire, for the purpose of reaping it.

In this market the question, as to the legality of using the customary, instead of the Winchester bushel of eight gallons, was first agitated; and much to the honour of the gentlemen who promoted the inquiry, afterwards brought to a legal decision in the court of king's bench; when the use of the Winchester, as the only legal standard bushel of the kingdom, was finally established: a decision replete with good policy, as by equalizing the measure, the price of grain per quarter is brought to an average estimate, and thereby tends to quiet the apprehensions of the community against unfounded and imaginary fears of scarcity.

A particular branch of a large lace manufactory, which employs nearly four hundred children, has been recently introduced, which promises to be of ser-

vice to the island, by employing a large portion of the children of the labouring poor.

Amongst public amusements, the Drama always stands conspicuous, and as a rational entertainment is more attended to than any other. The Theatre at Newport is sufficiently large, and has lately been considerably ornamented and improved. The regular season is during the months of August, September, and October, when it is well attended, particularly during the Michaelmas Saturdays. There are also assemblies at stated times, for which purpose there are two rooms of considerable elegance. Nor is the "traveller's best home" wanting to complete the accommodations of Newport. The Inns are excellent; in no town in England are superior comforts of every kind to be found.

The permanent library which is a handsome stone building in St. James's-square, forms also one of the most useful and interesting establishments of the town. It is called, "the Isle of Wight Institution," and is supported by an annual subscription of £ 1..5s. for each member, with an admission fee of one guinea and a half. It was established in the year 1810, and now contains a good collection of books, which is every year increasing; newspapers, reviews, and other periodical publications, are also supplied: strangers may have access through the introduction of a member. There is also another book society and reading room, on nearly the same plan; called the Vectis Reading Society, held in a room over the

shop of Mr. J. Mew, Music Master, &c. in the High-Street, near the Town-hall.

There is also an association of gentlemen in Newport, for promoting geological pursuits, and whose attentions were lately engaged in opening several large barrows on the western downs of the Island; but nothing of consequence was discovered, except a small goblet of thin stained glass, one or two pieces of iron about eight inches long, apparently the blades of large knives, or some other offensive weapons, in a state of great rust and decay, a few stone beads and some tusks of wild boars, which are all deposited in the collection of Sir Leonard Holmes, the president.

Of the buildings appropriated for divine service, the Church necessarily demands our chief attention. We have already mentioned that it is of great antiquity; but like all places, on which time has committed its ravages, is indebted to various additions and repairs for its present appearance; and in it more than one species of architecture are to be observed. It stands in the centre of one of the squares of the town, is very spacious, and has galleries in every part. It consists of a body and two aisles, one of which is separated from the rest by seven gothic arches, and the other by six. The chancel is divided from the body of the church by small oak pillars and arches, ornamented with carving. Here is a good organ. The pulpit is an exquisite relic of antiquity, of curious workmanship, being richly ornamented with fourteen carved emblematical figures,

disposed in the different pannels round it in two rows, so as to represent the liberal sciences and cardinal virtues. The date is 1636. The whole merits the attention of the spectator. It appears, that in the last century, and indeed in the present, the inhabitants, had the power of electing their own minister. The vicar of Carisbrooke however now nominates a curate to supply the church.

There are some handsome monuments in it, particularly that of Sir Edward Horsey. Among the unnoticed, but illustrious dead, lies the Princess Elizabeth, second daughter of Charles I. An arched vault was discovered in 1793, and near it a stone, with the initials E. S. upon it, which marked the place of her interment. The leaden-coffin, in which her remains were deposited, was found in a vault near the altar, which was perfectly dry when it was opened, and the coffin in a state almost as sound as when new, with the following inscription on it :—

ELIZABETH,

2d daughter of the late KING CHARLES,

dece'd Sept. 8, MDCL.

She died a prisoner in the castle of Carisbrooke, where King Charles's family was confined after his execution.

Of the Meeting-houses in Newport, the Presbyterians or Independents have two, the Baptists two, the Wesleyan Methodists one, and the Unitarians one, and there was till very lately, a Quaker's Meeting

which is now discontinued; there is also a very elegant Roman Catholic chapel, built at the expense of, and patronized by the late Mrs. Heneage, who left a sum of money for that express purpose.

The House of Industry, though an object connected with the whole of the Island, comes necessarily to be noticed under the present head. Its origin was this:—Some years back great abuses having been experienced in the management of the poor, in the different parishes of the island, the principal gentlemen determined upon some mode of remedying the evil; and accordingly, in 1770, a general meeting of the inhabitants was held, in which it was proposed, that an act of parliament should be procured to consolidate the poor's rate of the several parishes and to erect a house of industry, for the general reception of paupers. This proposal being agreed to, a bill was accordingly obtained, and a large building erected on part of the forest of Parkhurst, eighty acres of which were granted by Parliament for this purpose. It stands about a mile within the forest. The principal part of the building extends from east to west three hundred feet, and twenty feet wide, with windows on both sides for the benefit of more perfect ventilation. A wing, twenty-four feet wide, is formed from the main building at the distance of two hundred feet from the west end, and extends in length, towards the south, one hundred and seventy feet. A range of workshops also for manufacturers and mechanics, runs from the end of this wing in a line

parallel with the main building. On the east side of the wing is a court, one hundred and seventy feet by fifty, having a dairy, wash-house, brew-house and other offices on the east side, and a wall on the south.

The principal building consists of a store room, steward's room, committee-room, a dining hall, one hundred and eighteen feet long, and twenty-seven feet wide; a common sitting-room for the aged and impotent poor; rooms for the laundry, governor, and matron, nurseries and sick-wards, with excellent cellars under the east end. On the ground floor of the wing, are the governor's and matron's sitting-rooms, the school-rooms, apothecary's shop, kitchen, scullery, &c. &c. Above, are the lying-in-rooms, sick-wards, twenty separate apartments for married men and their wives, and two common sitting-rooms for the old and infirm. In front of the principal building is a large gateway, on the east side of which is a master-weaver's room, and spinning-room, with stores over them: on the west side, are the shoemakers' and tailors' shops, and a large spinning-room with weaving-rooms and store-rooms in the upper story: on the north side of the principal building is a chapel, fifty feet long by twenty-seven feet wide, There is also a pest-house, a house for the small-pox, and other infectious disorders, cells for delinquents, and a burial-ground walled in. A large garden, which supplies the house with vegetables, occupies the ground on the south side of the building; and on the east, behind the offices, is a barn, a stable, &c.

No building for similar purposes could have been constructed upon better principles, in respect to convenience, health, and cheerful accommodation. It is capable of containing nearly eight hundred persons, but the number usually supported in it is from five hundred to five hundred and fifty. Of the great utility of this institution we cannot express ourselves in better terms than those of the preamble of the act of parliament, which represents, that "the providing a place for the general reception of the poor, would tend to the more effectual relief of such, as by age, infirmities, or diseases, were rendered incapable of supporting themselves by their labour; to the better employment of the idle and industrious; to the correction and punishment of the profligate and idle; and to the education of the children in religion and industry; and thereby making the poor, instead of being totally supported by the public, contribute to the support, assistance, and relief of each other; and to be of some advantage to the community, to which they had before been only a heavy and grievous burden." These expectations, in the present state of society, are great, but they have not been disappointed : The aged have been supported, the sick relieved, and the poor comforted; the industrious have found employment, the profligate have been reclaimed, and the young have been instructed in the only solid basis of all duty, and of all happiness.

The manufactures now carried on in this place are sacks for corn, flour, and biscuit; stockings, kersey,

and other articles of apparel; dowlas sheeting (linen so called), mops, mop-staves, &c. In consequence of such a system of industry the poor's rate of the town of Newport has been reduced from five shillings and sixpence to little more than half-a-crown in the pound and the average of country parishes, even in the present times, does not exceed two shillings. The sum borrowed on the authority of the two acts (for a second was found necessary, and obtained in 1776) was twenty thousand pounds, the annual interest of which amounted to eight hundred pounds. The principal is now reduced to nine thousand four hundred pounds and the annual interest to three hundred and seventy-six pounds, notwithstanding the great diminution of taxes. On an average of some years, there has been gained by the manufactory, after deducting every expense, about two hundred pounds. In the second act, obtained in 1776, the corporation of guardians are stiled, "the Guardians of the Poor in the Isle of Wight;" and all persons are eligible to this office who possess, in their own right, or in the right of their wives, land within the island rated to the poor's-rate at the yearly value of fifty pounds, or are heirs apparent of such lands of the yearly value of one hundred pounds, or rectors or vicars within the island, or who are occupiers of lands rated at the yearly value of one hundred pounds. Out of these, twenty-four directors and thirty-six acting guardians are annually appointed for the management of the concerns of the corporation, and in them is vested

the appointment of proper officers for the internal government of the house. It ought to be added, that that part of the land which is not occupied by the building and garden, has been cultivated at a very considerable expense, and is divided into fields, of from five to twelve acres, mostly fenced with quick-set hedges, and in a state of improvement that promises to repay, very amply, the labour and cost bestowed on them*.

Nearly opposite the House of Industry, to the north-west, are erected barracks for the troops which used, during the late war, to be stationed in temporary barracks in Newport.—The buildings commenced in September, 1798. They were originally intended for the accommodation of 3000 men, but have since been converted into the general depot for recruits for the regular forces. They consist of five officers' houses, a commodious house lately erected for the residence of the commandant, and one for the chief accountant; eight large, and twelve small barracks, containing about 1700 men, with most complete out-buildings of every description. There are three wells, each about 285 feet deep, with most excellent engines fixed in them for the purpose of procuring water, which is attained with ease, and in abundance; rising within thirty feet of the top. The parade is considered as the most complete of any in the kingdom. The extent of ground on which the barracks stand is 1211 feet by 700 feet.

* For the rise, progress, and internal regulations, see ALBIN'S History, page 373 and seq.

At the southern extremity of the ground are the officers' houses, &c. in the centre of which is a large chapel for divine service.

At a small distance on the south-west of the barracks stands the hospital, containing four large and sixteen smaller wards, with iron bedsteads for the sick, and every possible convenience to render them comfortable : in the centre stands the surgeon's house, and in the rear of it extensive store rooms, &c. the whole standing on a surface of two acres of ground, forming a front and two wings, with two lodges at the entrance, which is on the east side, having a communication with the Cowes road by a gravel path, which completes the uniformity of the whole. The total inclosure to the barracks and hospital contains one hundred acres, including an extensive garden, and having a large plantation and quickset hedge surrounding the whole. On the left of the road to Cowes stands the burial ground, walled in, one hundred yards square.

There were also formerly temporary barracks at Sandown for 300 men, at Niton for 50, at Colwell-bay for 150, at Compton Cowlease for 50, at Grange-chine for 50, at Freshwater-down for 50, all built on the same plan, besides several guard-houses at different posts in the Island to contain together 150 men. But since the peace these barracks have all been removed.

We cannot leave Newport without citing a passage from our old historian Camden, descriptive of the

martial character of the Island in his time, from which her sons of the present day have in no degree degenerated. "This Island, he observes, is not so well fortified by its rocks and castles as by its inhabitants, who are naturally warlike and courageous, and by the diligence and care of the governor, have the methods of exercise so perfect, that be the service that they are put upon what it will, they are masters of it; for they shoot at a mark admirably, keep their ranks, march orderly: as occasion requires, they can close into a round, or loosen their ranks; they can endure long marches, and the fatigues of hot and dusty weather; in short, they are masters of whatever is requisite in a good soldier." To say that the spirit of their forefathers has been transmitted unimpaired to their descendants, will not be deemed an unmerited compliment, when it is recorded, that during the late war with France, the Isle of Wight raised upwards of three thousand volunteer infantry, a squadron of horse, and five hundred sea fencibles; and even now in time of peace, since the recent reduction in our military establishment and the wise determination of government to place the internal defence of the country, in the hands of those most interested in its preservation, namely, the yeomanry and landed interests, two troops of volunteer cavalry called the "Vectis Light Dragoons," composed of sixty men each, completely equipped and accoutred at their own expence, were raised by Sir Leonard Holmes in less than a fortnight! And though the personal character

of their commander, respected as he deservedly is throughout the island, operated no doubt as a stimulus to the exertion, still had not the *martial* been the *ruling* passion, the ardour that was felt, had never been excited.

NEWTOWN.—The ancient name of this town was Francheville, which it obtained either from being a free town, or the very reverse, a town taken possession of by the French. By them however, it was destroyed in the reign of Richard II. and being rebuilt, was named Newtown. The traces of a very large town are to be discovered; but in its present state it scarcely deserves the name of a village, not containing more than about ten cottages, with a proportional number of inhabitants. It still, however, preserves a corporation of mayor and burgesses, and has a town-hall; but this body does not consist of the inhabitants of the place, but of the proprietors of certain burgage-tenures, which entitle them to a vote in the choice of two members of parliament. Newtown has sent members since the 27th year of Elizabeth.

The town-hall stands on an eminence that overlooks one of the creeks of the harbour. Parties carrying their provisions may be accommodated at the house. In the great room are some oaken chairs, curiously carved, the workmanship of the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

The haven of Newtown is a most desirable place for shipping, and affords the best security of any

about the island.—At high water it is capable of receiving vessels of five hundred tons. The mayor and burgesses claim the water and fishery, they also hold a court-leet, and appoint constables; but a rent payable to the lord of the manor of Swainston, is collected from the holders of borough-lands. Newtown is in fact a manor within that of Swainston. It had a chapel dependent on the church of Calbourn, endowed with a glebe which is enjoyed by the rector of Calbourn. Upon the various branches of the Newtown river are several salterns, many of which have been built a great number of years.

YARMOUTH, is so called from its standing at the mouth of the river Yar or Yare. It is nearly opposite to Lymington river, on the coast of Hampshire, towards the western part of the island; and stands close to the sea on the eastern side of a point of land. In ancient charters it is called Eremuth, and is the first town in the island which obtained a charter of franchises, in the reign of Henry III.

Yarmouth first sent members to parliament in the 23rd of Edward I. The right of election is in the corporation, consisting of a mayor and twelve capital burgesses, who have power to make any number of free burgesses. Yarmouth consists of several streets, the principal of which runs from east to west, and leads to the market-house; which is a plain brick edifice. Here are good inns, the largest of them a square brick building, with detached offices, situate at the north-west corner of the town adjoining the quay. This

house was built by the first Lord Holmes, when governor of the island; and here he entertained Charles II; when he visited the town. The chief support of these inns is from the ships that occasionally anchor in the road, and from passengers to and from Lymington.

Strangers who visit the western part of the island and find it inconvenient to return to Newport for the night, may be here very well accommodated. Such is the constant report of travellers; and we cannot pay a higher compliment to the inn-keepers than by quoting the authority of their guests. The inhabitants of Yarmouth are estimated to amount to 560.

From the quay, boats pass daily to Lymington, and there is also a ferry across the river Yar to the hamlet of Norton; on the shores of which is Norton lodge, the beautiful marine residence of Captain Hammond. Yarmouth castle is situate upon the extreme point of land on the east side of the Yar; it was built by Henry VIII upon the scite of a church which, a short time before, had been demolished by the French. There was a whimsical propriety in building the castle upon this spot, for Henry paid the expenses of it out of the religious houses which he had dissolved. The lower part of the wall, on the left side, once formed part of the church. The fortification consists of a platform with eight guns, which command the narrow channel between this place and Hurst castle. There are also store-houses and barracks for the garrison; and to the northward of the

castle is a platform with large guns. There was likewise a sloop of war stationed in the road at the mouth of Lymington-river during the late war.

The church of Yarmouth is dedicated to St. James, and consists of a body and chancel. In a small chapel, separated from the chancel, is a vault, and some fine monuments of the family of Holmes, and an elegant statue of Sir Robert Holmes, who died in 1692. The outside of the church has nothing remarkable. Yarmouth is a rectory in the gift of the King, and has been augmented by Queen Anne's bounty. On an eminence, near the eastern entrance of the town, commanding the most extensive views of the sea and opposite coast, stands a large handsome house, the residence of the Reverend H. Burrard, by whom it was lately built.

EAST and WEST COWES, and RYDE, may also be considered as places of sufficient magnitude to be included among the more populous towns of the island; but they will come to be described with more propriety in the tours, which we shall now presume to recommend.

CHAPTER IV

TOURS,

IT is a consideration of no small moment to strangers, whose continuance in the Island may frequently be limited in point of time, to be informed in what manner they may visit, in the shortest period, the most striking and picturesque parts of this favourite spot. This assistance we shall now endeavour to render them, supposing they have already fixed on Newport for their principal residence. It may be somewhat amusing to those tourists, who visit the Island for the purpose of exploring its numerous beauties, to be informed, that long established custom here, has appropriated the term of *felicity-hunters* to travellers of this description; and we beg leave to express our sincere wishes that those who enter into the spirit of so laudable a chase may abundantly experience that happiness, to which this little volume is designed to be the guide and companion.

The general division of the Island into three principal routes has been usually adopted:—they are called the western, north-eastern, and south-eastern. We shall, in each of these, first point out the distance and then such particulars respecting each place as may be worthy of observation.

THE WESTERN TOUR.

	MILES.
From Newport to Carisbrooke	1
Shorwell -	4
Brixton -	2
Motteston -	2
Brook Down -	2
Freshwater-gate -	4
Needles-point -	3
Back to Freshwater and Yarmouth	5
Calbourn -	6
Swainston -	2
Newport -	4
	—
	35

CARISBROOKE.—The principal object here is the Castle, whether considered as the chief and most ancient fortress of the Island, or as affording, from its elevated situation, some of the most striking prospects. The keep is of great antiquity, and was the fort used by the Saxons in the sixth century; many additions were made to it after the Norman conquest, and the out-works, which are evidently of more modern structure, were added in the reign of Elizabeth; but as the art of war and the superiority of the British navy, rendered it a place of less note for defence, too great a part of it has unfortunately been allowed to decay by time. Its present appearance, however, is

truly venerable. The entrance is by a bridge on the west side; after which, passing over a second bridge, we arrive at a strong machicolated gate with a portcullis, flanked by two round towers, in which there are prison-rooms. The passage into the castle-yard is through this old gate-way. On the right hand, as we enter the area, is the chapel of St. Nicholas,* which is a military appointment, with the same pay to the chaplain as in other garrisons; behind it is a cemetery, now converted into a garden. The chapel was erected in 1738, on the ruins of an ancient one, already noticed among the ecclesiastical antiquities. On the left hand, are the ruins of the buildings where King Charles I was imprisoned. The stone work of a window, with an upright iron bar, such as is seen in old houses in country villages, is still remaining. In this room he partook of the little repose his sufferings permitted; and through this window it is said he endeavoured to make his escape; but this is thought doubtful.

Further on towards the east, are the barracks and the governor's house, the latter of which has been rendered very commodious, and the ancient part is now in high preservation. In the north east corner is the keep, or dungeon; in form an irregular polygon and its greatest breadth about sixty feet; but the

* The parish of St. Nicholas is partly contained in the upper part of the High-street, Newport, called Castle-hold; Cosham and lands; part of Slide-down; part of Dodner; Great Park; part of Shalcombe and Rowborough farms; and the other part, with the mother church, lies in Normandy, in France.

whole is now a ruin, having scarcely any remains of its former greatness. It stands on a mount considerably higher than any of the other buildings; the ascent is by seventy-two steps, somewhat injured by time, with some additional ones within the building. From the small part of the remaining platform of this keep is a most enchanting prospect, particularly to the north-west, north, and north-east, with a view of St. Catherine's tower to the south: except in part of the north-west, where it is bounded by Alvington down; to the south-west part by Bowcomb down, and to the south by St. Catherine's down, and the high ground in Appuldurcombe park, this prospect extends over the whole Island.

At the south-east angle of the castle are the remains of an ancient building, called Mountjoy's tower, which appears to have been once a place of great strength: from hence there is also a very fine prospect, but of less extent than that from the keep.

Among inferior objects of some curiosity, is the well, 300 feet deep, within a small building in the castle yard; at the side of the well is a wheel of very considerable dimensions, about fifteen feet in diameter, for the purpose of drawing water for the use of the garrison. An ass is kept here to perform this operation by treading the wheel, in the same manner as the timber and other engines of the same nature are at the crane houses in the dock yards, and at some other public wharfs, or as dogs turn the wheel of a spit:—it is called a windless-wheel. One

of these animals died about the year 1771, after having performed this service forty-five years; another, kept for the same purpose, twenty-six years, and died in 1798, being thirty-two years old. His late Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, on a visit to the Island, seeing the extreme docility of this animal, was so well pleased, that he ordered him a penny-loaf per day during his life. The present animal has been now twenty-five years at his labour. These circumstances are mentioned as curiosities, though perhaps, instead of considering these instances of longevity as prodigies, they ought rather to be attributed to the neglect of these useful and hardy animals, whereby we are precluded from knowing their natural history, sufficiently to be able to ascertain the common duration of their lives.

A curious experiment is commonly made here by letting a lighted lamp down into the well by a compound pulley, by means of which the walling is distinctly seen as far as it goes; but above half the distance from the top to the surface of the water is hewn out of the solid rock. In descending, a strong sound is created from the flame, like that of a hollow wind, or thunder at a moderate distance; and as the lamp burns on the surface of the water, it affords abundant leisure to view the well in that distant situation. It should not be forgotten that the building, by its being covered, precludes the light of the sky, except what comes in horizontally from the door, which is shut when this experiment is practised. It would be

an oversight should we omit to mention the purity and transparency of the water, the value of which can never be appreciated but by persons who are unhappily destitute of so inestimable an element. To the palate it is extremely grateful, and produces sensations of the most pleasing and agreeable nature: and as a proof its purity, it has been taken to the East Indies, and on its return found perfectly good.

When Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, was lord of the Island, and of the castle of Carisbrooke, it is highly probable that it received some reparations from his munificence, for the arms of that family are placed on a buttress at the angle of a part of the Governor's lodgings. These were three lozenges, and we know that the Earls of Salisbury bore three lozenges, red and fessways, in a silver field; expressed in heraldic terms—argent, three lozenges, gules infess. He was lord of the Island and castle from the ninth to the twentieth year of Richard II. as we shall have occasion to notice hereafter, when we come to treat of the lords and governors of the Island and castle.

Among other things, we find in the second year of Queen Elizabeth, that the ordinary charges of the castle of Carisbrooke amounted annually to sixty-nine pounds, nineteen shillings, and two pence: having two armourers, one at eight-pence, and the other at six pence a day; one harquebuss-maker at eight-pence a day, and one bowyer, one fletcher, one carpenter, and one wheelwright, at six-pence a day each.

The castle is surrounded by a fortification of con-

siderable extent, which is supposed to have been built or repaired in the time of Queen Elizabeth; and upon a stone at the north-east angle are the letters E. R. and the date of 1598. The form of the outer works is an irregular pentagon, and the whole is encompassed by a deep ditch.

The present military establishment of the castle is as follows:—the governor of the island has an appointment of 1200*l.* per annum, and under him is a lieutenant-governor at 365*l.*; besides which there belong to the castle, one captain at 10*s* per day, one master-gunner at 2*s.* per day, and three other gunners at 12*d.* per day.*

In passing through the village, the view of the castle, from the road, on the left-hand, and the church on the right, is highly picturesque, and affords an interesting subject for the pencil in several points of view.

Carisbrooke village has little to detain the traveller. The church, however, founded in 1064, and dedicated to St. Mary, is a handsome stone building. It has a fine gothic tower, with eight large pinnacles, which give it an air of grandeur, and contains a peal of eight musical bells. In this church is an organ, and there are some monuments worthy of notice, particularly a wooden tablet to the memory of a merchant seamen, on which there is an allegorical allu-

* For the ancient history of this castle, see ALBIN'S History, page 34, 43, &c.

sion to his profession. At the entrance of the village, issuing from a bank, is a never-failing spring of most pellucid water, to which some medical properties have been attributed. There are several handsome cottages lately erected between this and Newport. It has been long in contemplation to procure an act of parliament for bringing the water from this place, to supply the inhabitants of Newport, by conveying it into every house. The number of inhabitants in the parish (as taken in the year 1821) is 4670.

Leaving Carisbrooke, we pass on to Bowcombe vale, where the road winds through a beautiful country for three miles, bounded by lofty downs, and enriched by cultivation. From this we reach Northcourt House, the seat of the widow of the late Richard Bennett, Esq. whose grounds afford more richness and beauty of grove scenery than perhaps any in the Island. The trees are, with the exception of some new and thriving plantations, very ancient, venerable, and large; the variety of hill and dale gives a delightful effect to the whole, which is highly worthy of the stranger's notice. The house is a fine specimen of gothic architecture. The dairy fitted up with coloured windows, and very elegantly appropriate furniture, is singularly beautiful. In a finely shaded recess of the grounds is a happily conceived and well executed mausoleum, erected about twenty-five years since, to the memory of a much-lamented daughter of R. Bull, Esq. the late worthy owner of the mansion. On each side of the entrance is a large

seat formed from the trunks of very large old trees ;
over one of them is the following inscription:—

ETERNÆ MEMORIÆ SACRUM.

1795.

On entering the mausoleum, the door should be closed, by which a most interesting and solemn light is thrown upon the marble monument through windows of differently-coloured glass. The following lines appear on the marble:—

Oft in this once belov'd retreat
A father and a sister meet :
Here they reflect on blessings past,
On happiness too great to last ;
Here, from their fond endearments torn,
A daughter, sister, friend, they mourn ;
Soothing the mutual pangs they feel,
Adding to wounds they cannot heal.
Ah ! shade rever'd, look down and see
How all their thoughts ascend to thee ;
In scenes where grief must ever pine,
Where every bursting sigh is thine,
Prostrate they bow to God's behest,
Convinced whatever is—is best ;
In trembling hope it may be giv'n
With thee, blest saint, to meet in heav'n.

Oh ! reader, if thou hast a tear
At sorrow's asking, drop it here,

Opposite the monument:—

The retrospect of past felicity
Plucks not the barbed arrow from the wound,
But makes it rankle deeper.

There are some other appropriate inscriptions in different languages; the whole is beautiful, and admirably calculated to sooth the feelings of surviving relatives, and to inspire reflection in the mind of the contemplative traveller. Several well-devised rustic seats and temples are judiciously placed amongst the different groves. By a curiously constructed alpine bridge over the high road we are led to the temple of the sun, which commands a very fine prospect of the British Channel, St. Catherine's-hill, and the rich groves and vale of Northcourt. We particularly recommend these grounds to the attention of the visitors of the Island in general.

SHORWELL.—In the church belonging to this village are the monuments of the family of Leigh, who formerly possessed Northcourt House; and from the north-east side of the church is a view of the British Channel. From different parts of this road, St. Catherine's-hill on the left hand, assumes a noble and interesting appearance. The inhabitants of this parish, taken as above, amount to five hundred and seventy-one. About two miles distant is

BRIXTON, or BRISETON, a small but pleasant village, clean and populous. The parish contains six hundred and eighty-six inhabitants.

MOTTESTON commands delightful prospects of the sea and at a small distance, appears to be almost surrounded with woods: in this parish are one hundred and forty-nine inhabitants. In a piece of pasture land, under Motteston down, are two large stones, some-

thing like those of Stonehenge near Salisbury, supposed to be the relics of a place of druidical worship. Upon the shore is a point of land, called Sedmore Point; and near it a small cove, called Boat-haven. The manor-house, near the church, was the birth-place of Sir John Cheke, tutor to King Edward VI, and one of the first introducers of Greek learning into this country.* The view of Freshwater-cliffs, from many parts of this road, is extremely beautiful: it will not indeed be easy to point out a more charming assemblage of hill, vale, cliff, and sea prospects.

BROOK.—This village has one hundred and twenty-three inhabitants, and lies in a recess between two contiguous mountains, which shelter it from the “pitiless pelting of the storm.” At the end of the village is Brook house, formerly the seat of the Bowreman family, and now the residence of Mr. Howe, the lord of the manor. The situation of Brook Church, from the valley below, is very picturesque and singular: there is something peculiarly rural and pleasant in the appearance of this little village, and the scenery near it; particularly a very beautiful spot a little below the church, on the left side of the road, and just above the field and lawn which join Mr. Howe’s house. From the upper part of Brook-down is a delightful display of the fertility of the villages just past, namely, Shorwell, Brixton, Motteston, and Brook. Nuts of the hazel kind are found in the soil on a part

*There is an elaborate life of him in the Biog. Britannica vol. 3. edition 1784.

of Brook shore, which the country people call Noah's nuts.

On the road hence to Freshwater-gate, through Compton and Afton, the prospect of the British Channel is very extensive, and agreeably varied: but it is necessary to observe, that this is the only road which carriages can take, without making a circuit by Freshwater mill. There is however, a horse-road on the cliffs, where the traveller will be amply repaid by the extent of his prospects. The prospect from Afton Down is highly magnificent: the view of Freshwater-cliffs, the ocean, St. Catherine's-hill, Christchurch, and the Lymington shore, the intervening sea, and the rich country, every where surrounding the observer, form a noble and delightful succession of objects to engage the attention, and gratify the eye.

FRESHWATER.—The church here, which is one of the richest livings on the Island, contains some very ancient monuments. The present rector has very considerably enlarged and improved the parsonage house, situate about half a mile from the church. About a mile and half from the village is a house for the entertainment of travellers, called Freshwater-gate. The cave at Freshwater is 34 feet wide, 21 feet high, and extends 120 feet into the rock: it can be visited only when the tides are remarkably low; for which purpose we would recommend the times of new or full moon; about four hours after it is high water at Newport. Within two days after these periods, from three to five in the afternoon, must therefore be the most eligible season: and the mean time,

probably, the best of all. "The detached craggs, (says Mr. Wyndham,) near this cavern, and the perpendicular precipice above it, which extends and raises itself for some miles, with a continued progress of elevation to the extreme point of the island, offer a noble subject for the pencil; while, on the other side of the bay, three huge and lofty rocks, isolated by time and storms from the gravelly cliffs, and now rearing themselves from the sea; and the extensive line of the rough shores of Motteston, Brixton, and Shorwell, even to St. Catherine's hill, present a suitable companion to it."

The cliffs of Freshwater abound with various sorts of birds; and among others, the species of the duck that supplies the valuable article called eiderdown. But the ingenious manner in which the country people take their eggs, and destroy the birds, for the sake of their feathers, is worthy of notice, and manifests great dexterity; yet it is certainly most awful and tremendous, requires much judgment and steadiness, and what must turn giddy the heads of all persons who are not inured to similar scenes, or accustomed, from their occupation, to hang suspended in the air, regardless of the dreadful consequences which must attend a miscarriage. After observing that the eggs of these birds, nearly the size of the swan's, are considered a luxury for the table, and their feathers esteemed valuable by the upholsterers, we will, in this place, introduce some account of the manner in which this adventurous practice is managed; previously remarking, that it affords an instance

of rashness, for the utility of which, the object by no means offers any adequate recompense.

The first step towards accomplishing this romantic and hazardous adventure, is to drive a large stake or iron bar into the ground, at the top of the cliff, so as to be capable of bearing any weight which can possibly depend upon it; and sufficiently secure so as not to give way by any motion which the person, when suspended, can be capable of. To this a cart rope is fastened; and to its lower end there is put cross-ways, a stick, upon which the daring adventurer seats himself, and by which he is supported. With this simple apparatus he descends down the face of the horrid precipice, although the cliffs, in some places, are six hundred feet high from the level of the sea. These birds are now beset as they approach to, or go off from their nests, till the person attacking them has secured as many as he can; he then ascends by the same means, and recovers the summit from whence he had begun his bold and dauntless enterprise. It was from the beautiful scenes exhibited by this part of the Island that the late ingenious and celebrated Moreland took the principal sketches for his inimitable paintings. This parish has eight hundred and seventy-six inhabitants. The traveller can be decently accommodated with refreshments at the inn at Freshwater-gate.

NEEDLES-POINT is about three miles from Freshwater, in which there are a succession of prospects of the sea and the rocks, which defend this part of

the Island. Of these rocks, called Needles, three are still remaining: they were so termed originally from a tapering pillar about an hundred feet high, which was thrown down by the fury of the waves about fifty-seven years ago. These rocks are huge disjointed masses of chalk, forcibly separated from the main land, and projecting to a considerable distance into the atlantic ocean. The whirlpools that eddy round them, the rapid tides that flow through, and dense sea fogs that sometimes brood around the landscape, render the navigation dangerous, and in many respects impossible.

Upon the cliff that forms the furthest point of the main land, a light house is stationed. Here are many caverns and deep chasms, that seem to enter a great way into the rocks; and in many places the issuing springs forms small cascades of rippling water down the sea. It is recommended to the traveller to walk from the light-house to the extremity of the Point, whence he will see the rocks to great advantage: those who delight in the terrific, must be gratified with looking down upon the rugged cliff from the eminence on which they stand. There is a singularly beautiful cliff to the north of the light-house, variegated with a curious assemblage of differently coloured strata—it is situate in Alum-bay. To those who have time and taste it will be well worth while to enquire for the foot-road to the beach in Alum-bay; the view of the cliffs and the Needles from thence will repay the traveller for a little scrambling and rough

walking:—this ought to be done in dry weather and when the tide is low.

Return from hence to Freshwater-village and from thence to Yarmouth, through a rich and beautiful country. Near this village, on an eminence, called Farringford-hill, is a new and elegant house built by the late Edward Rushworth, Esq. commanding extensive prospects.

Of YARMOUTH we have already given a description in the preceding chapter. At Norton, on the western bank of the river Yar, is Norton-cottage, the property of Mr. Mitchell, which commands a prospect of the coast of Hampshire. The ride from Freshwater through Norton to the sea-shore is very pleasant, and much varied with trees and cottages. From Yarmouth pass through the small parish of THORLEY, which contains one hundred and thirty-two inhabitants; and by Thorley-house-place, the late Mrs. Leigh's, through many open fields, leaving on the left Ningwood, the seat of Sir John Pinhorn, to

CALBOURNE or CAUBOURN—which contains (within the parish) seven hundred and sixty-seven inhabitants, and is chiefly noticeable for some fine seats in its vicinity, particularly Westover, belonging to Sir L. T. W. Holmes, Bart.; Calbourne Lodge; and the parsonage.

SWAINSTON, the seat of Sir William Fitz Barrington, is a delightful residence, with grounds advantageously disposed. The lawn before the house is

beautiful; the house has been very considerably enlarged and improved within these few years. From this the ride is nearly the same as on setting out, under the castle of Carisbrooke to Newport. Travelers on horseback will be much gratified by returning from Freshwater-gate to Newport over the downs, along the summit of which there is an extremely fine ride for an extent of eleven miles: the day ought not to be too windy in any of these excursions upon the downs.

Should this ride appear too much for one day, it may be shortened by returning immediately to Newport from Freshwater, omitting the ride over the cliffs, and viewing Yarmouth only at a distance.

NORTH-EASTERN TOUR.

	MILES.
From Newport to Wootton-bridge	4
Binstead	2
Ryde	2
St. John's	1
The Priory	3
St. Helen's-green	1
Brading	2½
Sandham-heath	2½
Brading-down	3½
Ashey Sea-mark	1½
Newport	5
	—
Total	28

WOOTTON-BRIDGE.—Before we descend to Wootton-bridge, which is at the eastern side of this small parish, upon the point of an eminence, called Fernhill, is the seat of S. Sanders Esq. It is built in the form of a gothic church, and commands a very extensive prospect. On the left, passing on the parsonage (on the Wootton road) is situate the farm of Wootton The house, which has been formerly much larger than at present, is the remains of an old mansion.

Although scarcely noticed by visitors, this, together with the adjoining garden, afford perhaps one of the most beautiful prospects on the isle. From a well-cultivated and elevated situation is seen the Motherbank, Portsmouth, and part of Spithead, obliquely to the left. During hostilities with France, whilst many ships, as well for war as merchandise collect here, a sort of moving city, or rather forest, presents a sight, which at once delights an English heart and eye,—The wooden-walls of old England are presented ready for service, yet lying in peace and safety between the opposite shores.

Directly in front, stands the village of Wootton-bridge, partly in a valley, and partly on the side of an opposing hill: an estuary between, advances nearly three-quarters of a mile into the land, shaded on the brink by the knotty oaks of Firestone-wood. The most shaded part of the Island here presents itself to view; and it is presumed, that the pleasure arising from the picturesque scenery, will repay a

ten minutes delay. The beauty of this scene very materially depends on the tide being in, a circumstance which the traveller should particularly attend to ; the water on each side the bridge appears very charming. The number of inhabitants in this parish is only fifty-six. The principal part of the village lies in the parish of Binstead.

Through a beautiful wood, the road leads to BINSTEAD, a very small parish, containing two hundred and twenty-five inhabitants. There is a very rude but ancient piece of sculpture over the key-stone of the north door of the church, concerning which there have been many fruitless conjectures, and some superstitious traditions. It was, probably, one of those uncouth figures which the Saxon and Norman architects used to place on key-stones and friezes. The parsonage house is beautifully situate for retirement. From the church there is a fine prospect of the Motherbank and the coast of Hampshire. The ruins of Quarr-abbey are within a quarter of a mile of this place, and will afford some amusement to the curious traveller. Mrs. Fleming, the lady of the manor, has lately built an elegant marine cottage near the church.

RYDE is a place of some consequence, as being one of the usual communications with Portsmouth, distant about six miles, also of importance to visitors from the variety of prospects it affords. Every movement of the fleets from Spithead, Portsmouth, Stoke's bay, and the Motherbank, is distinctly per-

ceived here; and the division into Upper and Lower gives a most pleasing variety of scenery. Ryde has a chapel, which is lately much enlarged, but it is in the parish of Newchurch, and of late has greatly increased in population and extent; there having been within these few years, whole streets, and others are begun, to the east and west of those already completed. There is a circulating library here, and an assembly room.

It is to be lamented, that a piece of land commanding so enchanting a prospect as that on which these houses have been erected, had not been planned so as to make an uniform range of buildings. This might very easily have been effected, had the lady of the manor, who sold the ground on building leases prescribed a plan, forming a crescent, with an hotel in the centre, so that every house might have equally partaken of the prospect. Upper Ryde the principal part of the place, is situate on the top of an eminence, in a clear and pleasant air, which induces many families to make it their summer residence, and has occasioned a great number of good houses to be built. It is become of great resort as a bathing place; and the variety of excursions which its vicinity affords over greatly improved roads, inclines many persons to give it the preference to Cowes. There are here eight bathing machine, and two hot baths.

Ryde has three places for public worship; a chapel of ease, the parish church being in the interior of the island, at a distance of six miles, a meeting house for

the Calvinistic independents, and another for the Arminian methodists. There are also three respectable boarding schools for boys, and a free school, conducted on the Bell system, for boys and girls.

When the celebrated Fielding visited this place in 1754, (which in the journal of his voyage to Lisbon he describes as one of the most pleasant spots in the kingdom,) it was difficult at certain times of the tide to affect a landing, there being, in his language "between the sea and the shore at low water, an impassable gulf of mud and sand, which could neither be traversed by walking nor swimming, so that for near one half of the twenty-four hours, Ryde was inaccessible by friend or foe." Boats on wheels and common carts were employed for the landing of passengers subsequently to this period, but as the population increased, the want of a permanent landing place was more felt, and in 1814, an act of parliament was obtained, to sanction the erection of a pier, which has since been built at an expense of twelve thousand pounds. This useful work was planned and executed by Kent, being upwards of 1700 feet long, and varying in width from 12 to 20 feet. It may be justly esteemed the most delightful marine promenade in England, and a perfectly safe and exceedingly commodious landing place. In the summer months, this charming place is the rendezvous of elegant company.

A theatre has also been erected here by the late

Mr. Thornton, the spirited and intelligent manager, of the theatre royal at Windsor.

The boarding and lodging houses in Ryde are numerous, and remarkably convenient and well furnished.

To the east of Ryde stands Appley, an excellent house in the perfect villa style, scarcely to be exceeded in situation or convenience, the property of the late Richard Hutt, Esq. To the west, Mr. Pleyer, son to the proprietor of the manor, has built a spacious mansion ; as has also Dr. Lind in the grecian style of architecture which is just finished. Between this and Ryde, Lord Spencer has erected an elegant house and offices, near which the Marquis of Buckingham has lately built a beautiful cottage, surrounded by lawns, plantations, meadows, &c.

It may be useful to know, that by an act of Parliament a vessel or wherry can be compelled to go off from Lower Ryde, in any fit weather, or at any time of the tide, for a fare of seven shillings; and the boatmen are liable to a fine of five pounds for taking more, though strangers have frequently been imposed upon. The common passage-fare to Portsmouth is only eight-pence, though that usually paid is one shilling each passenger. In case of imposition, summary redress may be had by applying to any acting magistrate of the Isle of Wight division, who is empowered to inflict all penalties under the act.

ST. JOHN'S presents many interesting views of Spithead, Gosport, Stoke's-bay, and Portsmouth. It

is a most delightful residence the property of Edward Simeon, Esq. The house is neat and plain, and desirably situate for a sportsman, being almost surrounded with woods, which afford plenty of game. The grounds have undergone much alteration, and received considerable embellishments, under the direction of the late Mr. Repton, celebrated for his taste and execution in the science of picturesque gardening.

THE PRIORY. About a hundred yards from the high road to this, but not visible from it, stands a delightful residence, called Fairy-hill, belonging to the late Rev.—Glynn; and near it, on the sea-shore, is a marine villa and saltern, belonging to James Kirkpatrick, Esq. Near this spot is rising up a charming village, called Sea-view, which is already affording lodging-houses to visitors of the Island, and commands delightful views of the Sussex and surrounding coast. Priory is the seat of the late Sir Nash Grose, one of the Judges of the Court of King's Bench: it was built on the site of a house of cluniac monks, and has been much improved by the present possessor. The views from it open to great advantage, in respect to Spithead, Portsmouth, St. Helens-road, or the Sussex coast, where they are lost in the boundless horizon of the east. The walks are laid out with singular and happy taste: it is hardly possible to conceive a more lovely succession of prospects than those which invite the eye from the various openings made in the hanging-woods on the

sides of the cliffs below the house. Great and successful pains have been taken to cultivate a variety of fine trees, which contribute materially to the beauty of the place.

ST. HELEN'S-GREEN is so called, probably, from the old church of St. Helens, which stood near the sea, upon the green at the eastern extremity of the parish. The present church has been erected upon a hill, above the seat of the late Sir Nash Grose. The land-mark at the bottom of the hill at St. Helen's, sometimes called the old church sea-mark, is designed as a direction to mariners to avoid the shoals of the coast, and enable them to sail into the roads of St. Helens and Spithead. For this purpose it has lately been enlarged and whitened: lodging houses are now established near it. For half a mile to the south-east is a peninsula, terminating at a place called Dover* Point, which is the northern entrance into Brading, by which the harbour is completely choaked up, and the passage of ships of burden obstructed. From this point the harbour has every appearance of a large lake; hence you have a view up the valley of Newchurch, and clearly discover the hill of St. Catherine's at the distance of twelve miles. Strangers should, if possible, pass this road at the time of high tide, as so much of the beauty of the prospect depends on the haven being filled with water.

* The word *Dover* or *Douwer* is applied to pieces of land close to the sea, consisting chiefly of sand and barren herbage, formerly covered by the tide, but from which the waters of the sea have, in the course of ages, gradually retired.

BRADING.—This town has only one long street of irregular buildings, and about five hundred inhabitants. The church is supposed to be the oldest in the island; the view from the church-yard, when the tide is full, is very pleasingly diversified, and has been justly and generally admired: it has a market for corn on Mondays, and great quantities are shipped off here for the various mills of the island, or sent coastways on commission. From these mills vast quantities of flour are carried to the western coasts, or to Jersey, Guernsey, and Alderney. This town has a corporation, consisting of two bailiffs and twelve jurats. Accommodations for travellers may be met with here. A few good epitaphs will be found in the church-yard dispersed among those more rude and unlettered monuments of affection, venial in a country church-yard. The following specimens will do great credit to their author the late Mr. Gill, curate of Newchurch.

ON MR. BERRY.

It must be so:—our father Adam's fall
 And disobedience, brought this lot on all.
 All die in him:—but hopeless should we be
 Blest Revelation! were it not for thee.
 Hail, glorious Gospel, heavenly light, whereby
 We live with comfort, and with comfort die;
 And view (beyond this gloomy scene, the tomb)
 A life of endless happiness to come.

ON MRS. ANN BERRY.

Forgive, blest shade, the tributary tear,
 That mourns thy exit from a world like this :
 Forgive the wish that would have kept thee here,
 And stay'd thy progress to the seats of bliss.
 No more confined to grov'ling scenes of night,
 No more a tenant pent in mortal clay ;
 Now should we rather hail thy glorious flight,
 And trace thy journey to the realms of day.

ON AN INFANT OF THE NAME OF DYER.

This lovely bud, so young, so fair,
 Call'd hence by early doom,
 Just came to show how sweet a flower
 In Paradise would bloom.

That on Mrs. Ann Berry has been immortalized by the elegant music of Dr. Callcot. The haven which lies below the town, has been the object of frequent speculations to recover its land from the sea, but hitherto they have not been successful. The parish of Brading contains two thousand and twenty-three inhabitants. Near this town is Nunwell, the seat of Sir William Oglander, Baronet.

SANDOWN—commands the whole extent of Sandown-bay, from Chine-head and Dunnose on the south-west, to the Culver-cliffs on the east; the middle part of which cliff is of moderate height, and the the termination each way consists of elevated downs. The fort of Sandown is a regular quadrangular fortification, with a bason at each angle, and is surrounded

with a wet fosse. This is the only fort of any consequence in the Island, and is kept in good repair and properly manned.

BRADING-DOWN. Passing over this, we arrive at Asheys sea-mark, on the high down of Asheys. On this a conspicuous land-mark, is placed, being a truncated pyramid of hewn stone, about twenty feet high. It was erected by government in 1735, to facilitate the entrance into St. Helens, or Spithead roads; a direction on that point being particularly wanted to avoid the shoals and sands with which those roads are surrounded; and to enable mariners by means of other marks, to keep in the deeper water of the channel. On this elevated spot are most extensive views of Portsmouth, Gosport, Chichester, Southampton-water, Spithead, St Helens, and the harbour of Brading; the rich woods around Nunwell and towards Wootton-bridge, on the east and north side; and on the south, the fertile vale of Newchurch and Arreton, extending to the hills of Shanklin, Wroxall, Week, and St. Catherine's.

NEWCHURCH: this is a large and populous parish, containing three thousand nine hundred and forty-five inhabitants.

From Asheys-down the tour continues through the interior of the Island about four miles and a half to Newport. This whole ride from Brading to Newport over the downs, presents a continued succession of magnificent and diversified scenery.

SOUTHERN TOUR.

(This is by much the grandest of all.)

		MILES.
From Newport to Standen	-	1½
Pidford	-	1½
Niton	-	6
St. Lawrence	-	3½
SteePhill	-	1
St. Boniface or Bonchurch		2
Shanklin	-	3
Arreton	-	6
St. George's-down	-	2
Newport	-	2
		<hr/>
		28½

STANDEN.—The residence of the Roberts' family. The ride is here through a richly cultivated country, backed by St. George's down. Pass

PIDFORD—a neat residence, belonging to Sir L.T. W. Holmes, Bart. and now occupied by Mr. Coke. About a quarter of a mile further on the road to Niton is a neat little place laid out with taste, called Rookley-cottage, the property and residence of Miss Leach. And within a mile of Niton, leave Whitwell on the left, and on the right a very neat residence called The Hermitage, the property of M. Hoy, Esq. who has also built an obelisk on the northern extremity of St. Catherine's Down.

NITON is a village at the foot of St. Catherine's, to the eastward, and consists of two irregular streets of thatched cottages, the walls of freestone, and of very neat appearance. The church is one of the most ancient in the Island. Here a good glebe-house has been almost entirely built by the Rev. John Barwis, the present rector, who holds also the vicarage of Godshell, and the chapel of Whitwell annexed, under the presentation of the provost and fellows of Queen's college, Oxford. The population of Niton amounts to four hundred and forty-three.

In the church, on the north wall of the chancel, is erected a monument to the memory of the late George Arnold, Esq. In the front of a pedestal, resembling an antique altar, is a medallion by Flaxman; at the top is a pelican with her nest, in the act of feeding her young from her breast; to the right, a female figure reclines in a pensive attitude on the top of the pedestal, with her arm cast round the pelican and her nest. These last by Rouw. The whole monument is enclosed in cluster pillars of grey marble terminating in a pointed arch. On a tablet is an elegant inscription commemorative of a military funeral. The church is a venerable structure, and perfectly accords in the characteristic simplicity that pervades the village which the church overlooks. In the centre of the village stands the White Lion Inn.

A little farther to the south opens the grand sea view, a full display of the channel. At the bottom of the declivity, the commencement of the Under-cliff,

the road separates, the right leading to the Sandrock Spring Hotel, the left to St. Lawrence. The situation of the Hotel is inferior to none, in this by far the most interesting part of the tour. At the Hotel is good accommodation either for dining or sleeping, and from thence there is a carriage-road to Mr. Waterworth's cottage, which stands on the bank whence issues from a grotto-like inclosure; marked with an inscription "*Infirmi capiti fluit utilis, utilis alvo*" the celebrated Aluminous Chalybeate Spring, and communicates with the cottage by a long descent of stone steps. From Mr. Waterworth's cottage is the easiest access to Blackgang Chine another object of curiosity; facing is Chale Bay, where at low water parties may walk on a fine and smooth beach. Parties not afraid of a long walk intending to stop at the Hotel, may send forward their carriages and by turning to the right at a place called Gore-cliff, before descending into the Under-cliff, may ascend St Catherine's, on foot, or they may ride as far as the light-house. The trouble occasioned by this deviation will be amply repaid, if the day be clear, by the extensive prospect they will be gratified with from the summit of that hill, the highest land in the Isle of Wight, and which overlooks the whole, and comprehends interesting views, in every direction, far beyond its limits. Here is a light-house, and an ancient tower of unknown date which still remains entire, in defiance of time and the stormy winds by which it has been for ages assailed. It appears to have been the tower of a chapel or oratory.

By a descent from the southern limit of this ever-verdant hill may be seen the landslip, which, in the year 1799, excited much curiosity, and which merits observation, as satisfactorily explaining the phenomenon of the whole Undercliff, which is evidently the effect of similar landslips at different periods of time, and from the same cause, namely, the freezing of the subterraneous water, and by its consequent expansion, forcing the rocks in a loose soapy soil, from their position on a declivity, and leaving them to find a settlement nearer the sea, which they invariably do, and without any perceptible loss of lands. This theory is perfectly established by partial landslips, which nearly every seven winters is known to produce.

Over this apparently useless, and in point of fertility, degraded tract of land, the tourist can only find his way on foot. But let him proceed a little beyond the landslip to the westward into the confines of the parish of Chale, and he will find, that in her seemingly most moody humour of ravage and desolation, nature acts not in vain, nor inconsistently with her general purpose, and that she has goods in her gift which lie below the exterior of things, and is often richest in her most disguised and coarsest garb. Her more smooth and polished walks and rides have, in numerous instances, sent back the summer Rambler pleased, recruited, and prepared to face again, the relaxing pursuits after wealth and pleasure; but it is not to the garden of Vecta, not to her flowing and softer graces that disease and durability, which have

sunk deeper into the system of the human frame than merely to irritate the temper and discompose the nerves, can seek for relief. In this rudest and most savage part of her shore, in a disturbed and discoloured soil, almost a stranger to vegetation, must be sought from the use of the Sand-rock Spring, a remedy for sterner disease.

The waters of this spring are impregnated with greater quantities of alum and iron than any other as yet known. They have been attended with the greatest success in many disorders, and eminently among the sick in the Walcheren fever; and are in great request in the East Indies. The world is indebted for the discovery of this spring to Mr. Waterworth, who is a respectable medical practitioner, at Newport.

It will not be necessary, nor indeed easy to re-ascend St. Catherine's, a height of 780 feet from the tide mark, as from this place the road to the Hotel is easy and romantic. Where the road from the Hotel and that to St. Lawrence meet, stands Westcliff-house, of beautiful situation and architecture, belonging to Robert Holford, Esq. Proceeding to St. Lawrence, on the entrance into the parish of Whitwell to the right, stands Mirables, a place of considerable extent, and in the judgment of many, in the purest taste of any of the rival cottages. This place was converted from a small farm-house into its present state, by the late George Arnold, Esq. of Ashby Lodge, in the county of Northampton, and is now the property of

Mrs. Arnold, his widow. Besides its fine situation, this cottage is recommended by the care that has been taken to avoid all false and misplaced ornament.

St. Lawrence is a small parish, containing only ninety-six inhabitants, with the smallest church in the island, and probably in England, being not more than twenty feet in length, and twelve in breadth. At some distance below the church, near a farm called Woolverton, may be seen the ruins of an ancient church or chapel, of which there is now to be found no record. St. Lawrence is a rectory to which the Rev. H. Worsley was presented by the honourable C. A. Pelham, of Appuldurcombe, the patron.

The village of St. Lawrence composes part of the Appuldurcombe estate here. The late Sir Richard Worsley, (to whom by marriage with his Niece succeeded Hon. Charles Anderson Pelham, the present proprietor) erected a tasteful marine villa in a most enchanting situation, and planted a vineyard of some extent, but which, except in very fine summers, has not succeeded. The entrance is by a gateway, designed by Inigo Jones, and which formerly stood at Hampton-court.

In a pavilion, on the model of the temple of Minerva at Athens, Sir Richard has preserved the celebrated Athenian frieze, and also erected a green-house, a copy on a diminutive scale, of the temple of Neptune at Corinth. Here among some other whimsicalities, is a fort, on which are mounted guns cast out of the church bells at Nantes during the French

revolution, which guns were taken from a French privateer, captured a little away off, opposite the spot where they are now placed. On the cliff, in a small temple, called the seat of Virgil, is an antique head of that poet. This marine villa take it all in all, is inferior to nothing that the Undercliff, however worthy of admiration, has to boast of.

STEEPHILL. Of the fine situation of the village of Steephill, and particularly of the beautiful cottage of the late Earl of Dysart, almost every thing which language can express, or pencil describe, has been tried. Since the death of the Earl, this house has come into the possession of the Lord of the manor, the heir of the late Col. Hill. It is erected upon the summit of one of the dismembered rocks, and commands a long display of the Undercliff, even to the church of St. Lawrence. A very curious fish, is sometimes taken here, called the sun fish, from its ovicular form, the head only being a little pointed. Crabs and lobsters are also taken here in great plenty. Many ravens build in the cliffs, and likewise the *falco peregrinus* a valuable species for the diversion of hawking. It is hoped few will pass by this lovely spot without visiting the seat placed on the summit of a little hill opposite Steephill cottage; the prospect from it is unrivalled, and near it, is a cave commanding a sea view of uncommon interest. It is impossible to do justice to the grounds and scenery around this house, without dedicating some hours to their examination.

STEEPHILL is seated on a terrace near the foot of

the great cliff. Some wood and much rich shrubbery grows round the house, and adorns the masses of rock, which every where start from the uneven surface. One of these called the Devil's bridge, is in form, colour, and position as romantic as can be conceived. It lies projecting nearly horizontally from a bank, is of very great size, and the strata being of different hardness, the lower parts are so worn away, that the upper part overhangs like a vast cornice, and in this, there is an excavation deep enough to afford room for a bench quite covered over head, and accessible by a rude stair-case built against its flank. Ivy winds over its surface, and shrubs clothe its sides. From the bench, the view of the ground descending to the sea, and the great ocean beyond it, is extremely fine.

At Ventnor is the New Inn, substantially built, and commodiously fitted up.

ST. BONIFACE is the property of the Hill family. The grounds are well laid out, and the house unites in an uncommon degree the comfort of sheltered retirement, and the magnificence of a sea prospect. Immediately behind the house rises an immense hill, of a character totally different from the rugged cliffs just passed, it is a smooth and extremely steep chalk down; beautiful indeed only by its contrast with the surrounding scenery, but not extensive enough to be, like most of the chalk hills, displeasing from its unvaried surface. The house is more accessible by its well chosen situation, than any of those before described, where

more has been sacrificed to prospect than to convenience of approach.

BONCHURCH is situated in a very narrow valley formed by an immense mass of the fallen cliff, and watered by copious springs. In this little hollow, many elms flourish with great luxuriance; and the whole spot has so singularly a secluded air, that it is difficult to suppose that a narrow ridge of rock alone separates it from the boundless sea-view.

At Bonchurch, the traveller will find a most wild, romantic, and engaging spot, designed by and belonging to, Mr. Hadfield; also a fanciful small cottage of Mrs. Crosby. The church, which is dedicated to St. Boniface, is of Saxon antiquity, and was, no doubt, one of the first where the Christian religion was taught in this Island. The contiguity of its shores to those of France, naturally induced the first preachers of the Gospel to attempt the conversion of the fishermen upon this coast. The tomb-stones bear a resemblance to those that are met with in the sepulchral remains of the earliest periods of Christianity. The entrance of the church is through a perfect Saxon arch; the portico is clearly of Norman architecture. There is nothing remarkable in this church but its antiquity and site, having a delightful prospect of the ocean. The meadow below the church is a beautiful object, and affords a very uncommon instance of fertility so near the open sea. At the bottom of the field, is an excellent little cove for bathing; and close to the church is the most interesting Under-mount cottage and farm of Mr. Hadfield.

In this obscure village was born the celebrated Admiral Hobson, who flourished in Queen Anne's reign; he was brought up a taylor, but his predilection for the sea-service, and his great bravery and conduct, raised him from the lowest station to the highest rank in the navy.

Mr. Hadfield has placed a flag-staff on the summit of a most picturesque rock, and fixed a small battery adjoining to it; from hence strangers may see many local beauties of Bonchurch to great advantage, far more so than from any other point of view: to this rock, by the owner's permission, travellers may have free excess, a circumstance worthy of attention.

Bonchurch house erected by the late Col. Hill, has received great additions and improvements from Henry Grimes, Esq. of Warwickshire, who makes it his chief residence. This house commands a softened sea-view, owing to the intervening meadow and scattered elm-trees through which the sight must pass to the water.

Whoever passes through Bonchurch should be advised by all means to follow the carriage-road along the steep hill above the church, in the road to Shanklin, as, if they turn into the foot path, which the chaise-drivers frequently point out to them, they will lose one of the most magnificent views in their whole route. To those who travel in the contrary direction to that which we are describing, *viz.* from Shanklin towards Bonchurch, this advice will be particularly acceptable, as the finest and first view

of the Undercliff is entirely lost by turning out of the carriage-road on foot, at the top of the hill, merely to save a few yards in distance. As the steepness of the hill usually induces the traveller to quit his carriage here, the caution will be found useful.

To those who have time and inclination, we would recommend the examination of an highly interesting scene in the neighbourhood of Bonchurch, hitherto almost unknown to strangers; and indeed, from the remoteness and privacy of its situation, nearly so to the greater part of the inhabitants of the Island. It can only be seen on foot or on horseback. The stranger, when arrived at the foot of Bonchurch hill, near the church, is to enquire for the foot-road to Luccombe through East-end: he will pass through the yard of Bonchurch farm, and two or three fields beyond, before he arrives at the scene we allude to, which commences with a very striking view of a landslip, in many respects more curious and romantic than that at Knowles, and which took place about the same period. Pursuing the foot-path about half a mile through this wild scene, the eye is gratified by a quick succession of most majestic rocks: many fragments of which interspersed with trees and bushes, lie scattered about in the most striking manner, that can be conceived. Every interesting feature of the Undercliff is concentrated into this spot, which to examine, will require a walk of about two miles back and forward from the bottom of Bonchurch hill.

The cliffs rise to a most noble height, and are in

many parts beautifully mantled with ivy. The coppice woods are very rich in foliage, and not in the least injured by the sea air, to which they are so much exposed; and the masses of fallen rock among which the footpath winds, are of vast size, and some of them of very beautiful forms. The springs which break out in many places at the bottom of the rocky stratum, though not copious, yet have formed some small pools overhung with wood; and very rugged paths, probably formed by cattle, lead through the thickets in various directions, and open unexpectedly on several scenes of the wildest character.

The real admirers of the beautiful and sublime ought not to pass this scene unnoticed. Those who travel from Shanklin to Undercliff, and wish to see this interesting scene, should walk from Luccombe chine, through East-end to Bonchurch farm.

In the winter of 1817, there was a Landslip at East-end, which very much resembles in appearance the fall of land, which took place at the west end of the Undercliff before noticed. In both cases the cause of the movement was manifestly the same: there is an aluminous chalybeate of the same mineral properties, and almost exactly of the same quality at East-end as the Sandrook spring: in both cases, the landslip took place directly upon these springs. The late landslip at east-end is upon a much larger scale than that which happened westward; and the lofty cliffs and some large trees that have sunk down upon the land below, give a very magnificent and grand

effect to the ruin. The land above, gave timely warning of its inclination to move, by large cracks and fissures appearing on the surface, for two or three weeks prior to its fall: and there are still some of these indications of a future movement: so that in a short period of time, the road will probably be carried away, and the ruin extend to the base of St. Boniface-down. Strangers can very easily view the whole landslip, by leaving their carriages for a few minutes, and walking about twenty yards across a field to the edge of the cliff.

LUCCOMBE CHINE is a chasm, to which the descent is by a winding path, shaded with trees. In the centre of this, runs a stream of fine water, which forms a waterfall at the bottom, and afterwards runs into the sea. A peasant, who lives hard by, waits to conduct visitors to this place. The traveller will not fail to be much pleased with a noble view which breaks in upon him from the hill above Shanklin:—Sandown bay, the Culver-cliff, Brading-haven, St. Helen's-road, Spithead, Portsmouth, with the hills and vales of the Isle of Wight, as far as Cowes, form a very magnificent assemblage of objects. The form and shape of Sandown-bay is peculiarly beautiful.

SHANKLIN. The most remarkable object in this place is the Chine, being a vast rent in the rock which here forms the sea-cliffs, about half a mile from the village. A spring, which rises above this village on the south-west, and runs in an opposite direction to the chine, is shaded by a continued plantation of ashes

and elms ; when it has passed through a small artificial arch made of stone, it forms a cascade, The whole of the scenery here is grand and striking. The walk or rather scramble, through Shanklin-chine will repay those who, in search of the beauties of nature, do not object to a little fatigue. There is a beautiful waterfall at the top of the Chine, only to be seen by walking up the chine from the mouth of it. It appears evidently, by attentive examination of the nature of the soil, and circumstances of the situation, that the chine has been principally formed by this little stream of water gradually carrying away the banks, and occasioning large masses of earth to fall from the sides, which the water carries with it down to the ocean. The village itself is placed in a very retired and lovely situation : here are lodging-houses for the reception of strangers who frequent this place in the summer season. This parish, including Bonchurch, contains two hundred and sixty-seven inhabitants. The church is a donative, and, with Bonchurch, in the alternate presentation of the heirs of the late Colonel Hill and Mrs. Walton White, heiress of the late Major Popham. The present incumbent, is the Rev. Justly Hill. The situation of the parsonage-house cannot be too much praised. In itself it possesses the charm of simplicity, which is greatly augmented by the luxuriant myrtles that clothe its walls. It has received great improvement from the present incumbent.

ARRETON is a village composed of straggling

cottages ; but the country around is well cultivated, and contains one thousand seven hundred and fifty-seven inhabitants ; near this place is Stickworth, the seat of James Bell, Esq.

From this we ascend to the summit of St. George's down, the most central elevation in the island. It is unconnected with any other hills, and the plain upon its top is about a mile in length. At the foot of this down we rejoin the road at Standen, and passing Shide-bridge, arrive at Newport.

OTHER TOURS.

Although the above Tours comprehend the principal objects of attention in the island, yet to those visitors who have more leisure, or whose residence may not be confined to Newport, it may be necessary to point out a few other agreeable routes.

The first, still commencing with Newport, is as follows.

	MILES.
From Newport to Witcomb	1½
Gatcombe -	1½
Chillerton-farm	1½
Billingham -	1
Chale church -	4
Blackgang-chine and return	1
St. Catherine's and return -	1½
Kingston - -	3
Shorwell - -	2
Newport -	5

Total 22

In this tour we have to remark, that in the north wall of the chancel of Gatcombe church, is an ancient monument, supposed to be that of the founder, but called by the country people St. Radigund. Adjoining the church-yard is Gatcombe-house, the seat of A. Campbell, Esq. There are two hundred and forty-nine inhabitants in this parish.

BILLINGHAM is the seat of the Rev. James Worsley.

CHALE CHURCH. At a quarter of a mile from this is Blackgang-chine, the principal object on this route. The sides of this tremendous chasm are little short of five hundred feet high, but shelving; and a spring, which has its rise on the summit, winds slowly down to the sea. It appears to contain particles of iron of a sulphureous smell, and if drank, operates as a gentle aperient. Many copperas stones lie about in a native state; and there are some pieces of rock alum, but not in such plenty as at Alum-bay. It is said to have received its name from a gang of pirates who formerly made it a place of residence. We rather think it more probable, that the word gang means an opening for ascending and descending: thus the gangway in a ship: to gang, in the Saxon, and to this day in the dialect of the north, is the same as to go. It has a more savage and barbarous appearance than Shanklin chine, and not a bush is to be seen on any part of the mouldering precipices to soften its terrific aspect; but it is most awful from the shore below, where also the whole line of coast, to the extremity of Freshwater-cliffs, is clearly discernible. Those who wish

to see the whole of this very sublime scene should, in the first place, follow the winding path which leads from the style at the entrance in a horizontal direction, crosses the stream in the middle of the chine, and conducts to a boat house on the shore : having advanced about two hundred yards beyond the stream they should return again ; and about half way between the chine and the above-mentioned style is a path, which leads by a quick descent to the great cave at the bottom, and so to the shore, from whence it has a very striking appearance. The peculiar feature of Blackgang-chine ought to be an object of investigation to every traveller, who wishes to do justice to the varied character of scenery which distinguishes the Isle of Wight. This parish contains four hundred and seventy-three inhabitants.

From the bowling-green, on the north side of Kingston church are many extensive prospects. The number of inhabitants in the parish of Kingston is only sixty-eight.

SHORT RIDE FROM NEWPORT.

The following ride from Newport is a favourite with many visitors.

	MILES.
From Newport to Pann over	
Pann-bridge	1
Standen-farm	1½
Shide-bridge -	2

Carisbrooke-castle • 1

Round it to Newport 2

7½

Another southern tour may be thus performed. Diverging from the former southern tour, to the southward of Pidford, is the road to Godshill on the left, near three miles, or

	MILES.
From Newport to Godshill	6
Whitwell	3
St. Lawrence-shoot	1½
	<hr/>
	10½

and return by St. Lawrence church, to Steephill, Bonchurch, Shanklin, Arreton, Newport. The parish of Godshill contains one thousand two hundred and fourteen inhabitants. The parish of Whitwell, also in this tour, has four hundred and eighty-eight. The church at Godshill is a very picturesque object, being situated on a hill in the centre of the village : it contains some very handsome monuments of the Worsley Family, particularly one in the north limb of the cross, to the memory of Sir Robert Worsley ; and another in the south limb, recently erected by the Hon. C. A. Pelham, to the memory of the late Sir Richard Worsley. The latter bears an inscription, the former is without any.

On this route the principal object is Appuldur-

combe-house and park, the residence of the late Sir Richard Worsley, but now of the Hon. C. A. Pelham, eldest son of Lord Yarborough, who married Miss Simpson, niece and heiress of Sir Richard. From Godshill, the entrance into the park is by a gate-way of the Ionic order well executed.

This mansion, which is large and beautiful, is built of freestone, having four regular fronts to it of the Corinthian order, but the principal of them is adorned with two wings, and has a lawn before it. The man of taste, the antiquary, and the classical scholar will be amply gratified here, if he obtain leave to view the paintings, busts, scarce and valuable Grecian and other antiques, collected in the course of his travels at an amazing expense by the late owner. Mr. Pelham politely permits his steward, Mr. Sewell, of Newport, to give tickets of admission to any gentleman or lady sending his or her name for that purpose. Days for seeing the house are Tuesdays and Fridays, and a printed catalogue is there produced to strangers, describing the particulars of those valuable curiosities. The park is well stocked with deer. There is in it an obelisk of Cornish granite, near 70 feet in height, erected to the memory of Sir Robert Worsley, but our limits are infinitely too scanty for a detail of the various productions of nature and art, which embellish this noble residence. From Appuldurcombe the route may be continued through Wroxall, immediately to Steephill, or return to Godshill, in order to proceed through Whitwell, as before expressed.

EXCURSION FROM RYDE TO BEMBRIDGE.

	MILES.
From Ryde to Brading	4
Sandown-fort	2
Yaverland	1
Bembridge-down and	
Culver-cliffs	2
Longland-farm	1
Bembridge-farm	$\frac{1}{2}$
To the Windmill	$\frac{1}{2}$
Bembridge Point	$\frac{1}{2}$
Fore-land farm	1
Yarbridge	3
Brading	1
Nunwell	1
Ashy-farm	1
Ryde	3
	—
	21 $\frac{1}{2}$

YEVERLAND is a small parish containing ninety-two inhabitants; only a few cottages, and the manor-house, which was formerly the residence of the Russels. Mr. N. Smith, now occupies the manor farm. The little parish church has a well preserved semicircular arch of Norman architecture, which is ornamented with various mouldings, and particularly one deeply indented with a long, broad, and beautiful fluting.

BEMBRIDGE-DOWN. Having ascended this down, the ride is through some corn fields, leading to Culver-

cliffs : the approach to these is of so tremendous a nature, that few people will dare venture to look down on their perpendicular sides ; but the attention is particularly directed to the hermit's hole, at the west end of Culver-cliffs. It penetrates into the rock about twenty feet, at the distance of about thirty feet from the summit of the cliffs ; the path which leads to it from the top is steep, narrow and rugged ; but it is impossible to return after you have once descended from the brink of the precipice, till you come to the cave below, as the path is too narrow, contracted, and irregular, to permit a change of position for the feet. Most persons satisfy themselves with the terrific aspect it presents from the sea-shore below, on the east side of Sandown-fort ; and the idea of such an adventure is enough to disturb the strongest nerves. The views from this down are fully equal, and in some points superior, to any in the Island. The beautiful curve of Sandown bay appears to peculiar advantage from hence. This ride should be taken at the time of high tide, as Brading-haven then forms one of the most interesting objects, resembling an inland lake, surrounded with gentle declivities and woods. Indeed this ride should only be taken when the tide is in, as the want of it very considerably alters and injures the beauty of this part of the Island. Spithead and St. Helen's-road are from hence fully commanded. We should recommend the traveller, on foot or horseback, to the little cottage at the extremity of the down, from whence he has a fine view of the White-cliff, Bembridge-ledge, and a romantic wild shore of a mile

and a half in length eastward. Having descended the down, pass by Bembridge-farm, and proceed by the Windmill quite down to the Point, as it is called ; here, when the tide is in, there is an extremely beautiful view of Brading-harbour with a fine chain of hills in the back ground, and St. Helen's on the opposite side of the water. The parish of St. Helen's contains eight-hundred and four inhabitants.

NUNWELL, the family mansion of the Oglanders, has been much improved by the late Sir William: it is situate on an ascent, with its front towards Brading-haven and the sea, sheltered by a profusion of wood behind on the north side of Brading-down, and the east side of Nunwell-down with the pleasing advantage of a fine open lawn before it, commanding the most beautiful and engaging prospects.

EXCURSION FROM COWES.

The excursion from West Cowes, supposing the stranger to be at that place, are chiefly to be performed on horseback.—The first is to the westward

	MILES.
From Cowes to Gurnard's-bay,	2
Rue Street - - -	1
Thorness - - -	2½
Newtown - - -	4
Shalfleet - - -	1
Swainston - - -	3
And back to Cowes - -	7

WEST COWES, which is in the parish of Northwood, is seated on the declivity of the hill, on the west side of the river Medina, near its influx into the sea, which renders the approach to it from Southampton or Portsmouth extremely pleasing. It has an excellent harbour, and ships can turn out of it either to the east or west. Large fleets of merchantmen frequently ride off here for several weeks in time of war, waiting for convoy; and the town enjoys a good trade for the sale of provisions, and other things necessary for the sea-service. Though the lower parts of the town are crowded, yet its more elevated parts are so delightfully situate, both for purity of air and beauty of prospects, that many gentlemen of the navy, to whom this place is peculiarly convenient, have shown a predilection for it. Nor is it to the gentlemen of the navy alone that West Cowes has recommended itself as a favourite residence, others also have been charmed with the many beautiful situations on the hill, and near the castle, where several handsome houses are continually building. There are a number of excellent lodging-houses, particularly a very large one, lately built for that purpose by Mr. Coombes, who keeps the circulating library, but is now the property of Mrs. Aikman. There are four excellent seminarics here, which have an advantage exceeded by few in the kingdom of sea-bathing and mild climate. The ladies' schools are conducted by Miss Wilson and Miss Liddiard, and the gentlemen's by the Rev. W. Nickson, A. M. and Mr. Helmore. There are a number of hot and cold baths here.

The town of west Cowes has of late been considerably improved, by virtue of an Act of Parliament, passed in 1816: a convenient market-house and shambles built, which afford a good supply of meat, fish, and vegetables of all kinds, daily; a great convenience to inhabitants and strangers. Lord Grantham, Sir John Cox Hippisley, and Mr. Bennett, have also erected beautiful marine-villas along the beach, particularly Sir J. C. Hippisley on the parade. The town of West Cowes contains upward 3000 inhabitants. It has recently become the scene of attraction by the establishment of a yacht club, of which His Majesty is a member, with several Noblemen and Gentlemen, in number about 60; this annual Regatta generally takes place about August or September. Visitors from the neighbouring counties, and distant sea ports may be recognized on our shores, viewing the novelty of the scenery. It is supposed that upwards 200 vessels of different descriptions are usually present.

There is a mail for London every day made up at four in the evening, and arrives about eleven or twelve in the morning. Packets to and from Southampton and Portsmouth regularly every day. Also a very elegant Steam Packet which goes to and from Cowes to Southampton twice every day during the summer season. Coaches also to and from Newport and Ryde, daily.

On the right of the road leading from West Cowes to Newport, stands a picturesque cottage, in the Swiss

taste, constructed by General Whitelocke, and lately purchased by George Ward, Esq. It is thatched with straw, has a lawn and shrubbery in front, and exhibits a very romantic and pleasing effect.

On the summit of the hill, stands Bellevue-house, very elegant and recently built, and highly ornamented by G. Ward, Esq. commanding the richest prospects of wood and water. Other handsome buildings have likewise been erected here lately : on the hill is a large chapel of ease to the mother-church of Northwood ; there is also a presbyterian meeting-house, and a methodist chapel, likewise a beautiful chapel for the use of the Roman catholics, which makes a conspicuous appearance from the hill above East Cowes. The number of strangers, who, of late years, have resided at West Cowes, during the bathing season, has been very considerable, and of course advantageous to the inhabitants of the place. The shore, for every purpose of bathing, is very good.

The bathing-machines, which serve for an attraction to the fashionable, as well as for a remedy to the valetudinarian, are in possession of Mr. Hamlet and Mr. Hewitt ; the accomodation of both are commodious and good, and are on a fine beach, where there is also a good lodging-house, and a neat reading-room, a little to the westward of the castle. The castle commands the road as you approach the town on the west side ; the building is but small, and the battery is of semi-circular form, provided with eleven guns, nine-pounders, mounted. It was built in the time of Henry VIII.

The chapel was erected in 1653, consecrated 1662, endowed in 1657, by Mr. Richard Stephens, who gave the ground with £5 per annum. The Bishop of Winchester about eight years afterwards added £20 on condition, that the inhabitants made up a salary of £40, for the minister. It has since been augmented with Queen Anne's bounty. The presentation is vested in the inhabitants, although a chapel of ease to the parish church of Northwood. The chapel was enlarged at the east-end 1811. George Ward, Esq. lord of the manor, has considerably improved the chapel, by erecting a mausoleum tower at the west-end, which forms a majestic object at sea, and is seen many miles off: and he has also added usefulness as well as ornament, by giving a clock and bells, which the inhabitants find a great accommodation to them. The interior of the chapel is neat, and fitted up in a manner calculated to inspire devotion. At the west-end is a beautifully sculptured monument, to the memory of the late Mrs. Ward, which viewed through the arch of the tower, from the altar, gives it an effect superior to any thing seen in a country church. The last improvements were conducted by Mr. Nash, at an expense of not less than £2800. Divine service is performed three times on Sundays, at half-past ten, at three, and at half-past six.—The Rev. J. H. Gill, A. M. minister, and the Rev. W. Nickson, A. M. curate, are both surrogates.

GURNARD'S-BAY is remarkable for being the place where Charles II. landed when he visited Sir Robert

Holmes, the Governor, at Yarmouth. The farm of Whippence, not far from the coast, to the west of Rue-street, and that of Thorness still more westward, are only remarkable from their being shaded by trees, of which, for the most part, the houses on this part of the coast are destitute. A very fine and romantic view is presented to the eye on the hills above Gurnard's Bay; the water is seen to break boldly into the land in various bays and creeks. In front, the New Forest, with the distant high ground behind, form the boundary on the other side of the water; the Dorsetshire hills also rise in fine varieties: to the left, the island projects in four promontories, which are distinctly seen beyond each other.

EGYPT is the most northerly point of the island between Cowes and Gurnard's-bay. Sir Thomas Tancred is the possessor of this pleasant situation.

From NEWTOWN, (already described in chap. 3), we proceed to SHALFLEET, which has eight hundred and seventy-eight inhabitants: James Wilkinson, Esq. is lord of the manor. The church here merits some attention. It has suffered greatly by time and plunder, but the arms of William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, in the time of Edward III. are still to be seen in the painted glass of its windows. It consisted of a broad and low square tower, with a dome upon it, which was taken down in 1808, and a steeple erected in its stead. It has many marks of gothic antiquity about it, but it has been robbed of its antique windows, which always add to the grandeur

and solemnity of ancient fabrics, and afford so much pleasure and satisfaction to the amateurs of that style of architecture.

The porch is coeval with the church, and is of Norman architecture. Here is the figure of a Bishop in relievo, with his arms extended in length, while each of his hands rests upon the body of a griffin.

At SWAINSTON, Sir Wm. Fitz. Barrington has a handsome seat, which has lately been considerably enlarged and ornamented, and though in a great degree modernized, has yet remaining, in the offices, some curious fragments of antiquity. A very neat Norman double headed window is visible in the court, and the outside of a very pretty chapel is nearly entire. It has an east window much resembling those in Arreton church, and probably nearly of the same date situate in the midst of an extended and rural domain.

The next excursion is across the water to the eastward.

		MILES.
To East Cowes	- -	1
Osborne and Barton	-	1½
Brockwood	- -	1
Wootton	- -	1
Wootton bridge	-	1
Quarr-abbey	- -	2
Whippingham back by		
Alverstou	-	4
West Cowes	- -	3
		—
		14½

EAST COWES, to which we arrive by the ferry, is inferior in many respects, to its opposite neighbour. The woodland tract extends from East Cowes to St. Helens. The woods are principally oak, the country on which they grow is in general beautifully varied by gentle rise and fall, and from almost every eminence, the most interesting views of the Solent sea, with the magnificent addition of the harbour of Portsmouth and the road of Spithead, present themselves. On quitting Newport on the road towards Ryde, a very beautiful view is soon obtained of the Medina river from Newport quite to its mouth at Cowes. At high water this river is of considerable breadth and winds with ample sweeps between banks, which though of no great elevation, are of good shape and varied with arable and coppice; the towns of East and West Cowes, form a very interesting termination to its course, and there are generally a sufficient number of vessels at anchor in the river and road opposite to its mouth, to give animation to the scene. The Solent sea, like a noble lake, bounded by the luxuriant woods of the New Forest, with the very distant blue hills of the northern part of Hampshire, form a most beautiful termination to the view.

East Cowes is in the parish of Whippingham, and its inhabitants may be estimated at four hundred; but there are many respectable houses, though not disposed in any regular form. The principal are the custom-house, and the houses which front the harbour; and there are some considerable merchants in this place,

as well as at West Cowes. Several houses have also been built on the rising ground above it, which overlook the harbour and command admirable views both by sea and land. The several villas belonging to Mr. Auldjo, Mr. Sheddon, Sir George Thomas, Mrs. Goodrich, and East Cowes Castle, the elegant residence of Mr. Nash, who is making very considerable additions, are well deserving of notice. At no great distance from Mr. Nash's house, Lord Henry Seymour has built a magnificent structure, from the designs of Mr. Wyatt and professing to be in imitation of an ancient castle of no small dimensions. Seated on the steep descent of the coast to the Solent sea, it perhaps commands a view of that strait, superior in beauty to any other point in the Island. To the east Portsmouth, crowded with shipping, is in full view; and the richest line of the woody coast of the Island from Barton to Nettleston, appears in long and varied perspective. To the north, the Southampton river is seen in its whole extent, and the town of Southampton, with its spires and towers, though at ten miles distance, is no inconsiderable object. The woods of the New Forest clothe the view to the west, while Calshot castle on the point of its long bank of shingle, stands boldly out amidst the waves, and marks the separation between the solent sea and Southampton River. The house is of a very noble general form, and its clustering towers in every point of view, particularly when seen from the sea, are a striking and commanding object, and a most splendid

addition to the general scenery of the coast. The choice of both the form and scite of the mansion, reflects the highest honour on the taste of the noble owner.

The entrance of the little inlet called King's Key, has some pretty scenery about it. The inlet itself runs in a winding course through thick overhanging groves for more than a mile.

There are other houses also built by the late Mr. Mackenzie, and a beautiful cottage belonging to Mr. Ritchee.

OSBORNE-HOUSE stands on the summit of a hill ascending from Cowes, and commands very extensive views. This is one of the largest and best houses in the Island, the property of the Blashford family.

BARTON is also finely situated and occupied by a farmer.

QUARR-ABBEY presents us with some venerable remains of antiquity. Its early history may be found in Albin's History of the Isle of Wight, the perusal of which, to those who wish to be informed of all the particulars, antiquities, and curiosities of the island, will be highly gratifying. The only building which is preserved, apparently in an entire state, is the refectory or common-hall, now converted into a barn. Vestiges also of some stone-vaulted cellars are still remaining. The old walls inclosed about sixty acres round the abbey, most of which are now remaining, and two or three of the ancient gateways are still visible.

Returning from this spot we come to the great road

between Newport and Ryde, and re-passing Wootton-bridge proceed to Whippingham, which brings us again to the road leading to Cowes. On the right of the road a little beyond the turnpike between East Cowes and Newport, is Whippingham parsonage a very beautiful and distinguished feature in the scenery of the island; it affords the only decidedly picturesque view of the river Medina, which spreads before it, especially at high water like a lake, whilst at the same time it presents all the variety of a navigable river with its little bays and sinuosities up to Newport.

The land is beautifully thrown, and the grounds from their elevation, command a distant view of the latter town lying in a valley formed by some well shaped hills, and flanked by that on which stands the noble ruin of Carisbrooke Castle; St. Catherine rises magnificently as a back ground to the chequered scene of water, hill and woodland, which present altogether a combination of objects rarely equalled even in this land of scenic beauty.

The present possessor Archdeacon Hook, has recently re-built the house which is in perfect accordance with the character of the place, and to his well-known taste and love of the fine arts, are to be attributed the new disposition of these grounds, and the skilful arrangement of his materials, so as to bring all the leading features of the scene in the most advantageous manner under the eye.

The Church has lately undergone very great alterations, and received additions, particularly of a new

steeple, which is a very pleasing object, especially viewing it from the road between Newport and West Cowes. The church yard stands on a little nook of ground shaded on one side by a beautiful screen of elms and the blue swelling hills of the Island. The Medina flows below; whilst in the direction of the north, the eye catches an indistinct view of the sea; and when the wind is abroad, you may hear at intervals the mighty rushing of the waters, like the awful sound that echoes over the dark ocean of eternity, when the dying sufferer listens to its faint reverberation and catches a glimpse of its deep rolling billows in the last closing hour of existence. Every thing wears the appearance of the divinest tranquillity; and even the sun, as if in his fondness for the situation, lingers around it and shines on the mouldering sepulchres as one anxious to guard the repose of the tenants.

At Padmore, near Whippingham, is the seat of the late James Jolliffe, Esq. Whippingham parish contains two thousand and sixty-eight inhabitants.

Another excursion we shall particularize, is a ride from Cowes up the west side of the river to Newport, and down the east side of it to East Cowes.

	MILES.
From Cowes to Northwood,	2½
Newport -	2½
Cross the water to Fairlee	1
Whippingham - -	3
East Cowes - -	2.
Cowes - -	1
	<hr/>
	12

The roads are excellent on each side of the Newport River. At Northwood is the Parish church, that on the hill of Cowes being only a chapel of ease, though much larger than the mother church. The parish of Northwood contains three-thousand five hundred and seventy-nine inhabitants. There are two immense mills erected on the two different sides of the river, Approaching Newport on this road is the House of Industry already noticed.

FAIRLEE is the pleasant seat of John White, Esq. Its views down the water to Cowes are very fine. A wood, on the left of the house, serves as a shelter to the banks of the river, and the right wing is open and descends to the same point. Near this is Fairlee Cottage, the property of Mr. Albin, laid out with considerable taste.

Another small ride of five miles might with propriety, be added, since East Cowes has lately become so populous, and such a favourite with strangers: this little ride is

FROM NEWPORT TO EAST COWES.

	MILES.
From Newport to Fairlee	1
Whippingham -	2
Osborne -	1
East Cowes -	1
	—
	5

In this ride you have one of the best roads in the Island, At East Cowes is a large family hotel with an excellent assembly room, and good stabling, where sociables, post chaises, gigs, &c. are kept; there is a boat constantly to attend the packets from Southampton and Portsmouth: and strangers, going to the east part of the island, save four miles by landing at East Cowes; there are also a number of good lodging houses.

Other excursions and digressions from the principal routes might be pointed out; but we presume that we have given the curious traveller sufficient scope of information to enable him to vary these at his option or convenience.

VOYAGE ROUND THE ISLAND.

It may probably be expected, that we should lay down the plan of a voyage round the Island, in the same manner as the above tours and excursions. The pleasure, however, which this voyage may afford, depends so much on wind and weather, as to render it impossible to prescribe what the navigator shall see, and what he shall not see. In sailing round the Island however, we shall just mention the several points of observation which present themselves when the weather is favourable. Supposing then that the voyage commences from Ryde, these objects are in succession:—Binstead, Wootton, Whippingham, Cowes, Yarmouth, Norton, Worsley's tower, Alum-bay, Needles'-point, Freshwater-gate, Motteston, Brixton, Shorwell, Chale, Black-gang-Chine, Point of St. Catherine's, Undercliff, Dunnose, Shanklin-chine, Sandown, Culver-cliffs, Brading-harbour, St. Helens, Ryde. Under very favourable circumstances this voyage may be performed in fourteen hours, but generally takes a longer time.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

As it may be very serviceable for company coming into the Island to know what are the several rates for passengers, carriages, and horses, into and out of the Island, that they may avoid being imposed upon, we have here inserted a list of the allowances according to the act of parliament, and as regulated by the justices at the sessions, held at Winchester on the 15th of July, 1822.

Prices to be taken for passengers, carriages, with horses, and horses only, to and from Cowes and Southampton; to and from Cowes and Portsmouth; to and from Cowes and Gosport; and to and from Newport to Southampton, Portsmouth and Gosport.

HIRE OF VESSELS.

For a Vessel to carry a four-wheel carriage, two horses, and luggage, (horse-boat and other boatage included,) with or without a family, (horses above two to be paid for extra, at 3s. 6d. each.	-	-	-	-	1	9	0
A vessel, with or without a family, with baggage and three horses	-	-	-	-	1	2	0
A vessel to carry a four-wheel carriage and luggage, without horses, and either with or without a family	1	4	0				
A vessel to carry a two-wheel ditto, with or without a family and luggage, (horses to be paid for extra, at 3s. 3d. each.	-	-	-	-	0	19	0
A vessel to carry a family and luggage without carriage or horses	-	-	-	-	0	15	0
A wherry or row-boat with two men	-	-	-	-	0	12	6
Ditto with four men	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
A vessel for the day with passengers, but without carriage or horses, to and from either of the above places	1	5	0				
Passengers, each	-	-	-	-	0	1	0
Passengers by steam vessels, on the quarter deck, and in the main cabin, not exceeding	-	-	-	-	0	3	0
Passengers by ditto in the fore-castle. not exceeding					0	1	0

*Prices to be taken for passengers, carriages, and horses to and from
Yarmouth and Lymington.*

For hire of a vessel to carry passengers and one horse.			
or without a horse	-	0	10 6
Ditto, with two horses	-	0	12 0
Ditto, with three horses	-	0	13 0
Ditto, if more than three, additional for each horse	0	1	6
A vessel to carry a four-wheel carriage, with or without the family, without horses, (assistance and horse-boat included	-	1	0 0
Ditto, two-wheel carriage ditto	-	0	10 0
Ditto, four or two-wheel carriage, with horses, at per horse additional	.	0	3 0
Passage for a single person, without horse	.	0	1 0
Ditto, returning the same day, out and home	.	0	1 6
Wherry with one man	.	0	5 0
Ditto, with two	.	0	7 0
Horse-boat for shipping and landing at Yarmouth and Lymington	.	0	0 6

*Prices to be taken for passengers, carriages, and horses, to and from
Ryde and Portsmouth.*

For a vessel to carry passengers without horses	.	0	10 6
Ditto with horses, not exceeding three	.	0	12 0
Ditto if more than three, additional for each horse	.	0	1 6
Ditto to carry a four-wheel carriage with or without the family, (without horses)	.	0	18 0
Ditto two-wheel carriage	.	0	9 0
Passage for each person without a horse	.	0	1 0
Ditto with a horse	.	0	2 8
Horse boat for shipping and landing each horse at Ryde Portsmouth, and Gosport	.	0	0 8
Boat for shipping and landing each four-wheel carriage at Ryde, Portsmouth, and Gosport	.	0	2 0
Boat for shipping and landing each two-wheel carriage at ditto	.	0	1 0
Wherry with one man	.	0	5 0
Ditto with two or more	.	0	7 0

Prices to be taken for passengers to and from Southampton and Ryde.

For hire of a vessel to carry passengers	.	0	15	0
Wherry or row boat, with one or two hands	.	0	8	0
Ditto, with four hands	.	0	15	0

Prices to be taken for passengers to and from Yarmouth, Portsmouth, and Southampton.

For hire of a vessel to carry passengers	.	1	5	0
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All kinds of boatage and wharfage included in every article.

Fee on entry or booking all goods or parcels lodged in any warehouse, to be established under the said act, if exceeding one cwt. two pence, if less than one cwt. one penny, at each warehouse,

A LIST of the PARISHES in the ISLE of WIGHT, with the POPULATION, CLERGY, and PATRONS, in 1823.

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Popula.</i>	<i>Incumbent.</i>	<i>Curate.</i>	<i>Patron.</i>
Arreton, <i>V.</i>	1757	H. Atkins, A.M.		J. Fleming, Esq.
Binstead, <i>R.</i>	225	A. Hamilton, A.M.		Bishop of Winton
Bonchurch, <i>R.</i>	122	J. Hill, A.M.		C. Hill, Esq.
Brading, <i>R.</i>	2023	M. Popple, A.M.	— Thompson, M.A.	Trin. Coll. Camb.
Brixton, <i>R.</i>	686	N. Digby, A.M.	C. Worsley, A.M.	Bishop of Winton
Brooke, <i>R.</i>	123	T. Bowerman, A.M.		T. Bowerman, A.M.
Calbourne, <i>R.</i>	767	Hon. T. De Gray, A.M.	G. Hayter, A.M.	Bishop of Winton
Carisbrooke, <i>V.</i>	4670	John Brecks, M.A.	G. Richards, M.A.	Queen's Coll. Oxford.
Northwood, <i>R.</i>	3579		F. Pattinson, A.M.	Vicar of Carisbrooke
Newport, <i>C.</i>	4269		P. Geary, B.D.	
West Cowes, <i>C.</i>	in Nd.		W. Nickson, A.M.	
Chale, <i>R.</i>	473	J. H. Gill, A.M.	C. Orde, A.M.	C. Richards, A.M.
Freshwater, <i>R.</i>	876	C. Richards, A.M.	W. Sedgwick, A.B.	St. John's Coll. Cam.
Gatcombe, <i>R.</i>	247	B. Holmes, A.M.		Queen's Coll. Oxford
Godshill, <i>V.</i>	1214	H. Worsley, D.D.		
Niton, <i>R.</i>	443	J. Barwis, A.M.	H. Worsley, I.L.B.	Queen's Coll. Oxford
Whitwell, <i>C.</i>	488		C. Worsley, A.M.	
Kingston, <i>R.</i>	68	W. S. Goddard, D.D.		G. Ward, Esq.

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Popula.</i>	<i>Incumbent.</i>	<i>Curate.</i>	<i>Patron.</i>
Motteston, R.	149	— Mildmay		Sir H. St. John Mildmay
Shorwell, V.	571	W. Sneyd, A.M.	W. Moore, A.M.	Bishop of Bristol
Newchurch, V.	3945	F. Le Merchant, A.M.	R. Oakman, A. B.	Mrs. Player
Ryde, C.	804	H. Worsley, L.L.B.	Parish is in the Isle of	Eton College
St. Helens, <i>per cur.</i>	96	The Church of this	W. B. Winstanley, M.A.	Hon. C.A. Pelham
St. Lawrence, R.	71	H. Burrard, A.M.		Guernsey.
St. Nicholas	878	J. Hill, A.M.	John Thomas Lys.	The King
Shalfleet, V.	155	J. Worsley, L.L.B.	W. F. Hook, A.B.	R. W. White, A.M.
Shanklin, <i>don.</i>	132	J. Hook, L.L.D.		J. Worsley, L.L.B.
Thorley, V.	2068	R. W. White, A.M.	W. B. Winstanley, M.A.	The King
Whippingham, R.	56	H. Burrard, A.M.	W. Sneyd, A.M.	R. W. White, A.M.
Wootton, R.	564	— Ashurst, D.D.		The King
Yarmouth, R.	92	J. Davis		W. Wright, Esq.
Yaverland, R.		G. Richards, A.M., <i>Chap.</i>		The Governor
Carisbrooke Castle				Guardians of the Corpora.
House of Industry				

The following Gentlemen are Surrogates for granting Marriage Licenses.

Rev. P. Geary, Newport	{	Rev. W. Nickson, West Cowes
Rev. G. Richards, Newport		Rev. W. Sneyd, New Church
Rev. J. H. Gill, West Cowes		

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